

Silver Linings in Museum Education  
Thursday 9 April

16:17:02 One strategy I have used is a short phone calls, rather than a million emails...

16:17:10 My scheduling has changed - I'm not trying to maintain a strict 9-5. I get up when I wake up (often much earlier), work until tired of being onscreen & have a break & then resume. So my work day is stretched, but has been much more manageable since taking this approach.

16:17:44 Shorter days is a great idea and mixing up contact options

16:18:41 Emails are productive :)

16:18:59 Part of our role is to be responsive!

16:19:05 We have been using a combination of phone check ins (short and sharp at the beginning of the day) scheduled Microsoft Teams meetings or short ZOOM meetings to direct the approach for next day or two and then follow up once tasks completed

16:19:08 I am very lucky in that I don't have any little ones at home or caring for others so strangely have been more productive than I thought I would

16:19:28 Yes working from home works well for some folks eb :)

16:19:57 So surprised me as I thought I'd be off cleaning everything else rather than work

16:20:10 Yes I am fortunate to not have small children at home - many people are juggling multiple personal roles

16:20:22 I've kept a log, as it's difficult to recall once a couple of days have passed.

16:20:25 It seems apparent in a lot of conversations lately that there is a conflict between the message that "it's ok not to be at capacity, just do what you can" but then as there is a feeling of insecurity there is a need to prove yourself and make your work visible.

16:20:29 We've started using a program called Slack. We have limited access to our server and our Web App emails don't allow for attachments (annoying). So Slack has replaced email (almost). It's basically a live chat that we can also upload files to.

16:20:54 I find that 'reportability' the most difficult part of working from home. Justifying every task, you do every day is exhausting.

16:20:59 We also submit daily work output daily. Working part time and having a 5-year-old means I do work across the whole week- but I'm ok with that

16:21:24 We are acknowledging the complexities for people with young families or older family members under the one roof

16:21:53 Yes - my work is too. My boss has been ultra-organized and proactive

16:23:00 What does your reporting look like? We've been left to our own devices to determine what our daily work log looks like.

16:23:03 Our local council has told us to not try and compare productivity now to how we would usually work. It will take time to adapt and to be kind to ourselves.

16:23:31 Our local gov have said the same

16:24:05 Did you get consistent responses or a mixed bag in terms of what teachers are saying they want?

16:25:00 Teachers wanted curriculum linked material and the option of some virtual experience or educator going into a Google classroom or whatever they are using

16:25:19 Thank you

16:25:32 Thanks! This is useful to know.

16:25:37 My handful of responses have been really mixed

16:25:58 My teacher network are saying they are finding there feet. All different platforms are being utilised. It is too soon for them to think of what additional resources they require.

16:26:06 No one is checking on me but we have been asked to keep a log of each day. I ask my team to send an email outlining what they will be doing during the week, and to send a wrap up at the end of the week, not to check on them but to help with focus and a sense of achievement

16:26:52 I have the impression that audiences are very forgiving in the current environment.

16:26:53 Yes, think we need to acknowledge that nobody is expecting the shiny tech - it can be more rough and ready!

16:28:21 Great chat

16:28:30 We are creating very simple recordings of our VCE lecture programs

16:28:46 We are banned from using zoom - have to access this forum from private laptops, so can't use

16:29:17 Is that a security thing? You can use Microsoft Teams?

16:29:19 That's hard - thanks for joining us anyway

16:29:20 Webex is another option that DET is promoting.

16:29:29 We were looking at creating zoom content but have since been told that as an organisation we are not allowed to use it! I'm currently in my personal device to access this.

16:29:51 It's a security issue - they don't approve of the platform. We are using Teams for everything internally

16:29:59 Teams is good though

16:30:36 I've been wondering if there is an opportunity for collaboration across the sector. Rather than us all doing our own separate thing, can we contribute to a shared platform? Like this in the UK: <http://www.show.me.uk/>

16:31:33 Such a great option to collaborate

16:31:35 Exactly - but be honest and clear where you've shared it from

16:32:10 Yes - let's collaborate :D

16:32:27 This sounds amazing, definitely keen to get involved :)

16:32:42 What an awesome idea

16:32:43 Brilliant idea

16:32:44 That's a great platform.

16:32:49 GOOD IDEA!

16:32:59 How about PGAV?

16:33:17 The Departments of Education have agreed to create a shared place for resources... this includes cultural institutions

16:33:31 Absolutely! It would be wonderful for the smaller orgs....

16:33:34 Are you talking about FUSE Stephanie

16:33:41 Definitely worth chatting with Anne from PGAV

16:34:30 How are organisations approaching funding requirement?

16:34:49 Art Education Australia have created a resource that all are able to contribute to.

16:34:58 That would be a good initiative for Anne PGAV <https://pgav.org.au/>

16:35:17 <https://aev.vic.edu.au/>

16:35:28 I think that is like a sorting house for resources that have already been created

16:35:35 Microsoft Teams has a lot of resources in this area for producing content.

16:35:39 Im hearing the term "The After" far more just recently which bodes well.

16:38:32 I like that "Think Weirdly" as a motto for the times

16:38:38 It does level the playing field. I think these online meetings are great for people in the regions.

16:39:32 We need to consider this as a regional accessibility factor for future events

post-Rona

16:39:35 I'm an education officer and I usually spend large amounts of time with school groups - which I love! this closure though has given me great opportunities to throw myself into content development. I think the value of this has been recognised and going back there will be more of a balance of what an 'education officer' should be doing.

16:39:57 That's awesome

16:40:38 I also hope there will be more recognition of the importance of developing resources (and idea generation) rather than just delivery.

16:40:49 I have far more accessibility wfh

16:40:55 It's great to have the opportunity to contribute to scholarship and research in the institution I work for during this period.... : )

16:41:23 Resurfacing and repurposing

16:42:42 More online opportunities would be great for those that are regionally based

16:42:54 The work we are doing now will hopefully be able to change and better the way we interact with regional school in the 'after' - so this is definitely useful planning and development time

16:43:14 Agree

16:43:32 Well this will make us more capable of working online and with regional

16:43:37 I'm hoping to find the opportunity to refine our processes, documentation and procedures. But also feeling the pressure to balance that with producing visible work.

16:43:38 I'm the only educator and never seem to stop. So now I've been taking stock of all old and new progs, resource etc and putting them up in a cheery old spreadsheet - then I will FINALLY have an overview of what we can offer and will offer in the future

16:44:13 Are there other ways and means apart from online?

16:44:16 Is anyone mailing paper resources?

16:44:54 We've done a bit of a teacher survey to find out what teachers want us to create for them

16:44:55 We've been looking at the idea of mailing resources in order to assist disadvantaged schools.

16:44:57 There will certainly be a huge amount of new online content produced, but will it be utilised as there is such a overwhelming "waterfall" resources?

16:45:07 I think there should be - in terms of accessibility

16:45:41 Our Youth Services unit is delivering physical activity kits to disadvantaged young people.

16:46:06 I thought it was reassuring to hear that DET is supplying devices and internet access to any student that needs it.

16:46:18 I think if its relevant resources would be used. We are just sticking to our curriculum areas of course

16:46:24 We are also worrying that there will be an overwhelming amount of content to sort through

16:46:25 I agree with paper resources PLUS class Kits (things in it that classes/schools wouldn't normally have and too expensive just to purchase for one Unit every 2 years etc)

16:46:29 Regional centres don't always have sufficient access to internet

16:46:59 Yes resource fatigue

16:47:05 Agree

16:47:21 I think we will be looking at providing resources that are able to be printed or downloaded so a stable internet isn't required - as well as online and interactive content

16:48:19 We are trying to include guidance for activities that are done offline.

16:48:38 So we have hands-on activity guides delivered online.

16:48:45 Access to printers is an issue

16:48:52 We just bought one for my kids printables

16:48:57 I don't - why I'm concerned regarding some of our content we're putting up

16:49:19 Schools will be 'open' though and easily be able to print and distribute hard-copy resources to their cohort.

16:49:24 We would need to providing material to the schools and asking them to include material in packs to kids

16:50:06 Very true, but this could change

16:50:21 Yes primary is very simple, literacy, numeracy and 'other' activities.

16:50:36 We are close to finishing this meeting. What other topics would you like to discuss in future sessions?

16:51:15 I hope we can continue to conversation of a collaborative platform.

16:51:25 Going sideways and I do apologise however - we have a local STEM Conference that is now going online and FREE - woohoo! Herers the link:

16:51:29 <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/stem2020-on-demand-strategies-for-a-rapidly-changing-world-registration-101392385354?fbclid=IwAR238IKJHanb6WMKNp57GephuacZCL03PANnZbF-HJqHDhFeHoFBDJXu9IU>

16:51:40 <https://www.facebook.com/groups/AMaGAENVi/>

16:51:51 <https://twitter.com/MAENVI>

16:52:01 <https://amagaenvi.org/>

16:52:11 DET schools are mandated to provide digital devices to all students.

16:52:30 This has been great thank you

16:52:32 Centralising # hashtags can create immediate shared networks.

16:52:33 We have internet blackspots up the Hunter - how do the schools cope?

16:52:35 Has to be wifi in the home though

16:52:42 DET is working on providing internet and devices for all students .... but they won't all have it.

16:52:56 Mobile data dongles I think.

16:53:02 Can you please gather all the links and share them out?

16:53:05 Yes its great

16:53:09 This has been fantastic. I hope there are more in the future

16:53:22 This has been wonderful and super informative, thanks all.

16:53:26 It has been great sharing ideas and experiences

16:53:27 Yes, thank you - this has been valuable!

16:53:36 Thank you all.

16:53:36 Very helpful to hear about other orgs' work and issues

16:53:38 Thank you see you all next time

16:53:40 Thank you, really interesting!

16:53:51 Thank you!

16:53:57 Thank you

16:53:59 Thank you - this was great

16:54:02 Thanks

16:54:04 Thank you it has been great!

16:54:08 Thank you

16:54:09 Thank you

16:54:20 Thank you!

16:54:24 Thankyou

16:54:25 Thank you, it was great! Look forward to more sessions! :)

16:54:25 Thanks!