

Design Thinking in Action:

Where creative agency shapes the Years 7 to 10 Economics and Business Classroom

The Presenter – Birgit Verhagen, Consultant

Birgit brings over 25 years' experience in education across Prep to Year 12, with a strong focus on strategies that support student engagement, personalised learning, and creative thinking. Her work centres on designing meaningful, real-world learning experiences through transdisciplinary programs, Design Thinking, and project-based learning, helping students develop the human capabilities and soft skills needed for life beyond school. As a Consultant with *Creative Futures CoLab*, Birgit partners with schools, educators, and leaders to reimagine education as a creative, collaborative, and human-centred journey. She supports future-focused learning models, student agency, staff capability building, and school transformation. Driven by curiosity, collaboration, and a commitment to shaping the future of learning, Birgit aims to create experiences that empower every learner to thrive today and tomorrow.

Monday 18 May, 2026

CA ANZ Training Rooms
Level 18
600 Bourke Street
Melbourne VIC

(Bourke Place)

Design Thinking involves critical thinking and investigation strategies, as students move through several steps to create and manage their own guided learning. With an emphasis on economics and business curriculum in Years 7 – 10, you will spend the day examining the elements of design thinking, linking these elements to the curriculum and creating your own design thinking project ideas ready to use in the classroom.

Program

8.30am	Registration and tea/coffee
9.00am	Welcome
9.15am	Design Thinking Introduction Introduction to the techniques of Design Thinking Benefits for the classroom Examples of success Measuring outcomes for students
10.30am	Morning Tea
10:45am	Design Thinking in Practice Workshop style – techniques for your first Design Thinking project
1.00pm	Lunch and Networking Hour Including an opportunity to share your design thinking project
2.00pm	Creating your own project & developing your next steps
3.00pm	Close

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BOOKINGS

To access member rates, please ensure that:

- You have joined or renewed your membership for 2026.
- **You are logged in** (by using your own personal username and password) before registering for an event.
- You do not use the login details of your colleagues – this also applies to school members.

Register online at
www.vcta.asn.au

ENQUIRIES

P: (03) 9417 3555

E: registration@vcta.asn.au

CANCELLATIONS

No refunds are provided if less than one week's notice is given.
Prior to one week - \$30 fee per cancellation.

FEES per person (incl GST)

Payment must be received by VCTA prior to the program. Your registration is acceptance of our offer and as such you are liable for the payment irrespective of whether you attend.

Member Type	Webinars
VCTA Individual Member (non-school)	\$208
VCTA School Member	\$265
Pre-Service Teacher/Concession	\$137
Non-Member	\$397

Payment entitles you to a copy of the webinar and any resources provided. Please note that the webinar is not available to view after the live recording until payment is received.

- For payments by Bank Deposit, Quote your Invoice Number as your transaction description
National Australia Bank | BSB: 083 522 | Account: 63053 7099
- Credit Card: Pay by website at www.vcta.asn.au or Phone 03 9419 9622

The Australian Professional Standards for Teachers

The Victorian Institute of Teachers has implemented the Australian Professional Standards for Teachers.

Please note it is the responsibility of each teacher to keep their own professional learning records and, after each event, to reflect upon, and note, the learning acquired.

For this professional learning program, VCTA identifies the following standards as applicable.

2. Know the content and how to teach it

2.2 Organise content into coherent, well-sequenced learning and teaching programs.

2.3 Design and implement learning and teaching programs using knowledge of curriculum, assessment and reporting requirements.

3. Plan for and implement effective teaching and learning

3.2 Plan and implement well-structured learning and teaching programs or lesson sequences that engage students and promote learning.

3.4 Select and/or create and use a range of resources, including ICT, to engage students in their learning.

6. Engage in professional learning

7. Engage professionally with colleagues, parents/carers and the community

7.4 Participate in professional and community networks and forums to broaden knowledge and improve practice.