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NEXT LEVEL DIGITAL SKILLS CONFERENCE

SPEAKER PROFILE



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Presentation Synopsis: Demystification: Paving the way for coding in Education

With the envisaged curriculum reform and the identified need for future-proofing our learners for the job market, WCED supports the inclusion of digital skills, computational thinking and coding and robotics in the curriculum. In order to understand the WHAT, WHY and HOW of coding and robotics in education, we need to start at the foundational building blocks of these concepts.

“Everything should be made as simple as possible, but not simpler.” – Albert Einstein

This presentation aims to demystify coding in education and provide key perspectives for implementation with a focus on Foundation Phase. The session will also accommodate for discussions on drivers for implementation, best practices and general question and answers.

PROFILE

A Deputy Chief Education Specialist at the provincial office of Western Cape department of Education in South Africa who specializes in the integration of technology in the classroom. Currently, she is tasked with the demystification of coding in education across the province which also relates to her field of research as a Master's student at the University of Johannesburg. Furthermore, she is spearheading the redefinition of ICT teacher professional development in the province.

She is originally from the Free state where she worked as Senior Education Specialist: eLearning at Free State Department of Education (Provincial Office). Prior to that as a Foundation Phase Teacher, she was honoured with two National Awards in the category of “Excellence in technology-enhanced teaching and learning” at National Teaching Awards 2012 and as “Change Agent” at the Microsoft Innovative Teachers Award in 2012. She has co-authored three book publications with Van Schaik Publishers on the integration of technology in Mathematics, Assessment and Life Skills. She has designed and trained various courses for ICT training as Provincial ICT coordinator and as lecturer and course designer at the University of the Free State. She holds a BEd (Pre-School and Foundation Phase), BEd Hon (School Management and Leadership) and is currently busy with MEd (ICT in Education). She continues to expand her sphere of influence as ICT trainer, mentor, conference speaker and content and policy developer for educators to function within the fourth industrial revolution.

2019 crowned her 10th year in Education which motivated her to move to Cape Town for the next stretch of her journey as Educational Thought Leader.

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