

AI in Education Symposium

3 August 2026

Banyule Nillumbik Tech School
61 Civic Drive, Greensborough



8:30 am

Arrival & Registration

9:00 am

Welcome

9:10 am

Keynote: Rashan Senanayake

9:45 am

Morning tea

10:00 am

Workshop Session 1

11:20 am

Workshop Session 2

12:40 pm

Lunch

1:30 pm

Workshop Session 3

2:50 pm

Feedback & Ideation Session

3:25 pm

Closing Remarks

3:30 pm

Afternoon tea & Networking

Exploring AI with confidence and turning knowledge into practical impact in the classroom.

Banyule Nillumbik Tech School, in collaboration with Inspired Education Australia, is proud to present this whole day professional development opportunity.

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For more Information visit our website → <https://mptech.school/2026AISymposium>

Session	Location	Presenter	Session description	Capacity
Keynote	Auditorium ▾	Rashan Senanayake	Inspiring AI in Education: Developing Real Skills & Capability	
Workshop Session 1	Auditorium ▾	Microsoft	Copilot in Education: Saving Teachers Time, Keeping Students Thinking	15
	Pink Room ▾	Tech Futures	National AI in Schools Program: Hands on AI course	15
	Blue Room ▾	Stuart Fankhauser	Whole school AI Policy	15
	Design Studio ▾	Ash Hall	AI prompt engineering	15
Workshop Session 2	Auditorium ▾	Nick Glen	The Thinking Partner: Using AI to Push Thinking Further	15
	Pink Room ▾	Rashan Senanayake	Building Custom AI Tools for High Student Engagement	15
	Blue Room ▾	Sally Stepniewski	The STEM Chatbot	15
	Design Studio ▾	Dan Farrant	Using Generative AI in Education	15
Workshop Session 3	Pink Room ▾	Jordan Di Palma & Mark Furlan	Expanding the use of micro:bits with AI	20
	Blue Room ▾	Ember Chittenden	AI in Action	20
	Design Studio ▾	Rohan Durrant	Go Daddy & AI, creating a website for teaching & learning	20

Sally Stepniewski, *Yarra Ranges Tech School*

The STEM Chatbot

This session explores how AI chatbots can strengthen high-impact STEM teaching by supporting ethical reasoning, systems thinking, personalised feedback and student engagement with complex real-world problems. Through practical classroom examples, teachers will see how structured AI dialogue can scaffold stakeholder analysis, evidence-based justification and critical thinking. Practical routines and safeguards show how AI can enhance clarity, confidence and decision-making without replacing student learning.

Rashan Senanayake, *Inspired Education Australia*

Building Custom AI Tools for High Student Engagement

Discover how to design and implement custom AI chatbots to enhance student engagement and personalise learning in the classroom. This workshop explores the latest in practical applications of chatbot technology in the classroom, moving beyond generic AI to create targeted, subject-specific digital assistants. Participants will gain hands-on experience in building a chatbot tailored to their specific curriculum needs, fostering a more interactive and responsive educational environment.

Nick Glen, *Waverley Christian College*

The Thinking Partner: Using AI to Push Thinking Further

AI isn't going away – but neither is the need for real thinking. In this session, Nick explores what it looks like to use AI as a genuine thinking partner rather than an answer machine, and how to build that same habit in students. Expect a practical framework for designing AI interactions that sharpen higher-order thinking, protect academic integrity, and keep the human in the driver's seat.

Dan Farrant, *Gippsland Tech School*

Using Generative AI in Education

Curious about AI but not quite sure where to start? This practical workshop will help you understand generative AI; the good, the bad, and the ugly. We will explore how it actually works, key educational challenges like bias, misinformation, and academic integrity, and with this knowledge, explore how you can use AI to support your in the classroom.

Rohan Durrant, *Go Daddy*

Go Daddy & AI, creating a website for teaching & learning

Explore how AI is transforming the way businesses design, build and manage websites. In this session, teachers will experience how AI tools can streamline the creation of online content, automate tasks and support digital presence. Gain insights into real world industry applications and consider how these tools can be adapted for classroom projects and student learning.

Stuart Fankhauser, *Nossal High School*

Whole school AI Policy

AI use in classrooms is mostly invisible. Students rarely know when, how, or why a teacher has used AI, teachers rarely make their own use visible, and it's difficult to see how students themselves are using it. That opacity hides a widening gap between students who already wield AI critically and those who don't. This session presents a framework for AI transparency that enables a more honest conversation about AI between teachers and students. Paired with a metacognitive lens, it helps students distinguish AI that amplifies their thinking from AI that replaces the productive struggle learning depends on. Building on this, our school-developed AI platform is being designed to give staff a shared way to author and distribute effective prompts, so that a student's access to good AI practice no longer depends on which teacher they have or what their home circumstances allow. The aim is an education where AI access doesn't quietly become AI advantage, learner agency is preserved, and human judgement stays at the centre.

Speaker TBC, *Tech Futures*

National AI in Schools Program: Hands on AI course

Students are already using AI, the question is whether they understand it. This hands-on workshop puts you inside a free, world-class course giving every student a solid foundation in AI: what it is, how it actually works, and how to use it critically, safely and responsibly. Work through real lesson activities, including Lumen, a classroom-safe AI chatbot, and leave with full access to all eight lessons, ready to teach in Term 4. No AI expertise required.

Travis Smith, *Microsoft*

Copilot in Education: Saving Teachers Time, Keeping Students Thinking

Learn how Microsoft Copilot can support your teaching practice by assisting with lesson planning, resource creation and administrative tasks. In this interactive session, teachers will explore practical ways to use Copilot effectively, while critically evaluating outputs for quality and accuracy. Walk away with strategies to save time while maintaining strong professional judgement.

Ember Chittenden, *Bendigo Tech School*

AI in Action

Explore how AI is being brought to life in real classroom and industry contexts through Bendigo Tech School's innovative programs. In this session, teachers will engage with practical examples of AI in action, investigate how emerging technologies are integrated into learning, and consider how these approaches can be adapted to support student engagement, problem solving and future focused skills development.

Ashley Hall, *Banyule Nillumbik Tech School*

AI prompt engineering

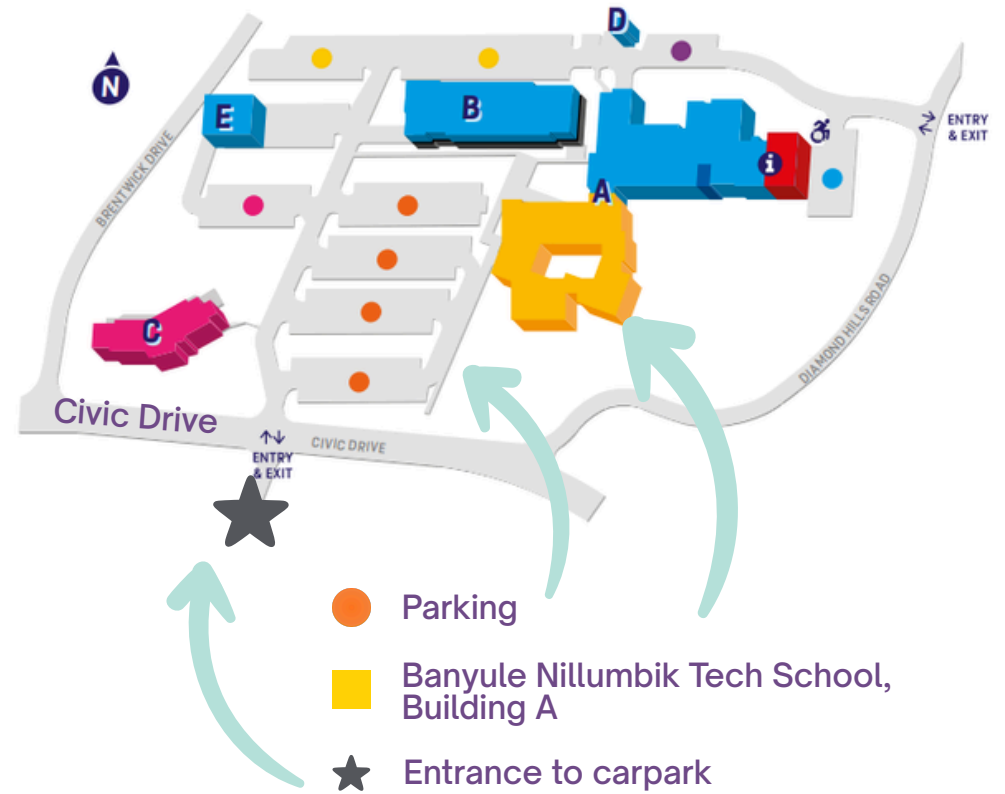
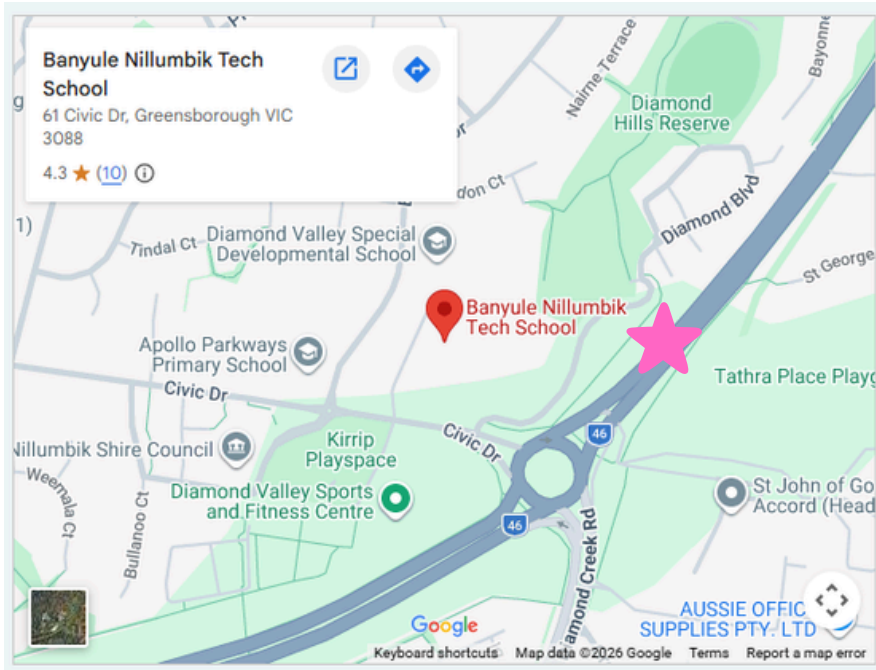
Build your confidence in writing effective prompts to get the best results from generative AI tools. Participants learn about and experiment with different prompt structures, effective phrasing to use to improve outputs and explore how prompt design influences quality and accuracy. This session focuses on practical techniques that can be immediately applied in the classroom to support student learning and creativity, including image generation, interviewing characters from classic novels and films and breaking down complex tasks.

Jordan Di Palma & Mark Furlan, *Banyule Nillumbik Tech School*

Expanding the use of micro:bits with AI

Explore how micro:bits can be extended using AI concepts to create more interactive and responsive projects. Teachers will engage in hands-on activities that combine coding, sensors and simple AI principles. This session highlights connections between physical computing and intelligent systems, providing ideas for engaging, future-focused classroom experiences.

Getting here



Parking is available on site

PTV
Bus 901 from
Greensborough
Train Station

