

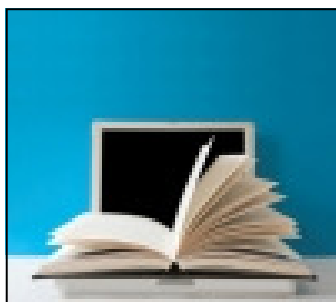
# STAR Theme: Developing Information Skills

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## A definition

"Information literacy is knowing when and why you need information, where to find it, and how to evaluate, use and communicate it in an ethical manner" (CILIP, 2004)

It is an essential skill for learning and knowledge creation and is also a core component of digital fluency - requiring critical thinking, IT skills and online interaction



## Aims of the project

Identify good practices in supporting the development of information literacy

Identify resources for those involved in supporting students in developing information literacy, including guidelines and case studies

Enhance collaboration between Faculty and Learning Centre staff in approaches to information literacy development at all levels

## Some areas of good practice have been identified

### Information literacy support is more effective where it is:

- Incremental - skills develop throughout a student's time at University (and beyond), and some competency levels can be articulated at various stages
- Contextualised - within a disciplinary context and within a project/assignment focus
- Embedded in the curriculum
- Built into learning objectives and assessment
- Embedded in learning teaching and assessment processes
- Timely - mediation at critical learning points

## Issues which make this skill more important than ever are:

Impact of digital media on information seeking behaviour

Bypassing 'quality' resources and overreliance on Google

Lack of evaluation of web resources

Plagiarism

Web 2.0

## Case studies are being developed in these areas:

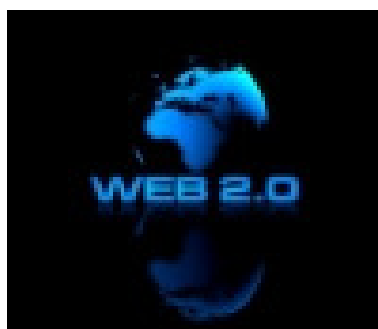
- Enquiry Based Learning
- Referencing
- Using the Internet effectively for academic research
- Shared teaching with LITS information advisers
- Innovative delivery methods

## Future plans

include developing case studies, pilot projects and collaborating closely with other initiatives such as Digital Fluency and Information Literacy work in LITS



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