

## Education

EXCLUSIVE

# Australian kids using new AI tool to



Melbourne dad Paul Richards with son Mason, who loves using the TeachingBlox program. Photo by Luis Enrique Ascui

Like many parents, Paul Richards and his wife found themselves in need of

SCIENCE.

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If you're a colleague recommended TeachingBlox, an AI-powered teaching program that taps into a student's interests to boost engagement and help them with their studies.

Mr Richards said the program had been “life-changing” for his 12-year-old son, a student at Melbourne’s Yarra Valley Grammar.

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The learning platform initially asks the participant a series of questions to gauge their interests and then keeps students engaged by offering personalised lessons, games and challenges that tie in with their hobbies — in Mason’s case, a passion for AFL and cricket.

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**"I got the shock of my life the other day," Mr Richards said.**

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**"It relates everything to what he's interested in, he's a very sporty kid,"** POST COMMENT  
 Richards said. "Mason said to me 'I know most of my maths questions now',  
 which is what I was struggling with before we got him on to this." **Viewing Options**

**"I don't think a home tutor would actually do a better job than what this has done for him."**  
 Mario 5 hours ago



Emily Segal and her son Elliot using the learning platform. Picture: Supplied.

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 Melbourne mother Emily Segal said it has improved the maths skills of her son, Elliot, student at Bialik College, by offering challenges and questions that tie in with his love of cars.



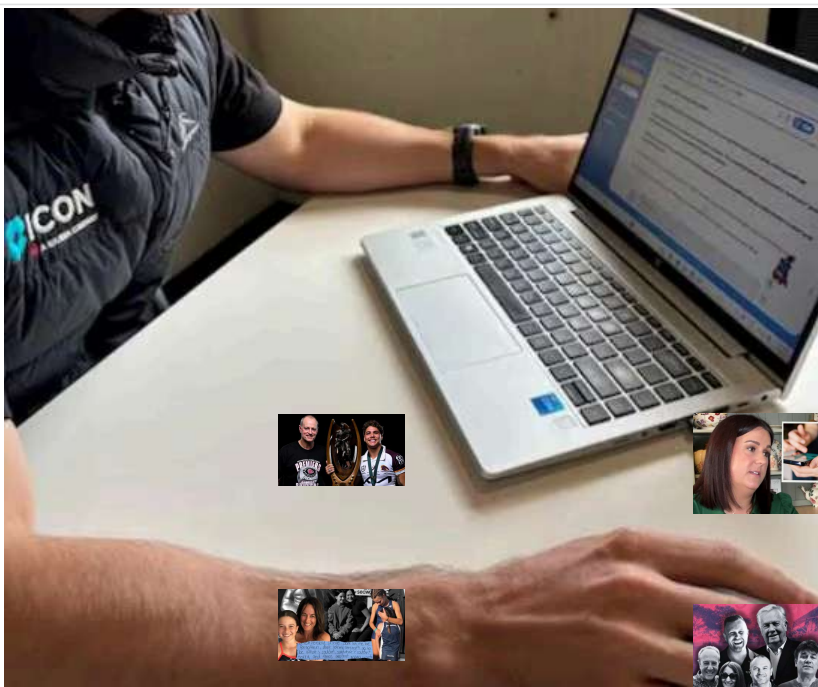
Parenting  
lesson adapts to who they are, how they feel, and how they learn best,” Mr  
Paraskevas, a former soldier whose own trauma from his time in Afghanistan  
inspired his mission to help troubled teens.

“It gamifies the journey — as you’re leveling up, you’re earning points, you’re  
making mistakes and failing. It’s a mission — helping troubled teens fight their own battles through military-style boot camps.”



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Ross Paraskevas, Creator and Founder of TeachingBlox. Picture: Luis Enrique Ascui



Marc Zigame uses TeachingBlox. Picture: Supplied

Opinion  
“Through that process, you are earning points. But it’s doing something even more special. As you’re learning, you’re identifying knowledge gaps. I want, but this is truly an Australian skills gaps.”



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The learning platform has attracted huge interest in India as well as the United Arab Emirates, where a study is looking at 200 students across five schools over a three-month period. The biggest policy blunder in history’



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“Half of the students will engage with TeachingBlox, while the other half will form a control group, enabling comparative insights,” the UAE’s Department of Education said. I nearly turned down a top secret request from the study will explore how gamification affects motivation, enjoyment, and engagement in learning, while also providing early indications of knowledge and skills gained.”



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And it’s not just for kids — adults seeking self-improvement are also using the platform to up their skills and enhance their learning.

Engineer Alex El-Kazzi, 32, from Sydney’s southwest, uses TeachingBlox to help with language learning and marketing skills.

He said the platform helped him retain knowledge and he wished there had been a similar program when he was growing up.

“I feel like it would have saved a lot of time and money — my parents put me in tutoring at a very young age and I just watched how much they struggled to pay the tutor for an hour session,” he said.

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Originally published as [Australian kids using new AI tool to help them learn school subjects](#)

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