**DEC Suspension Centre State Conference 2011**

**PROGRAM**

**THURSDAY 24 November, 2011**

1:00pm Arrive – Light lunch

Set up Display posters from different centres

2:00pm Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country – Tom Urry, South Western Sydney Regional Director

2:10pm Introductions and Housekeeping - Fred Burley

2:20pm Update from Paul Lennox/Stephanie O’Malley – Student Welfare Directorate

3:00pm History and Guidelines of Suspension Centre – Fred Burley

Collecting topics – suggestions for discussion

3:30pm Afternoon tea

4:00pm Supporting students back in schools

Mentoring programs – Ray Handley

5:00pm Finish

6:00pm Pre- dinner drinks and discussion – survival tips and approaches

7:00pm Dinner – Local venue

**FRIDAY 25 November, 2011**

8:30am Arrive, coffee and discussion

9:00am Understanding the adolescent brain – neuroscience, mental health and youth culture (access to online presentations from the following leaders in these fields)

Adolescent neuroscience – Professor Christos Pantelis (Neuropsychiatrist at the University of Melbourne), Dr Stephen Wood (Cognitive neuroscientist at the University of Melbourne and Dr Chris Lennings (Psychologist at the University of Sydney)

Neuroplasticity – Dr Norman Doidge

Gamification: what we can learn about learning from our interaction with games - Dr Tom Chatfield

10:00am Practical issues for suspension centres – websites, funding, referrals and management practices

11:00am Morning tea

11:30am Technology for motivating reluctant learners – a look at the principles and techniques behind designing engaging digital resources from NSW Premiers Special Education scholarship research and PhD studies at the University of Wollongong by Ray Handley

12:30pm Lunch

1:30pm Discussion – research and core principles. Effective practice in small, alternative education settings such as suspension centres. Findings from PhD report *Suspension Policy in Practice* by Alison Moore.

2:30pm Drawing things together – summarising the sessions

3:15pm Finish