The Learning Centre
at Hills Grammar

GROWTH COACHING INTERNATIONAL

The Learning Centre and Growth Coaching International present

The Learning Centre 2027 Series: *Lead Like a Coach*

The research is clear: Coaching is different to Mentoring
and leaders who know how to coach flourish, and so do their staff!

Growth Talk: Managing 'Got a Minute?' Conversations

Learn to make the most of the unplanned conversations that shape your leadership, your staff and your school culture.

Every school leader knows them: the unscheduled knock on the door, the corridor catch-up, the "got a minute?" that wasn't in the calendar.

These moments happen frequently throughout the school day and while they can feel like interruptions, they are also some of the most significant leadership opportunities available - chances to support thinking, affirm progress and strengthen relationships, one conversation at a time.

Drawing on the concepts and frameworks in *Growth Talk: A Coaching Way of Leading in Schools* (Munro & Campbell, 2025), this highly practical series of five 1-hour sessions develops the skills and awareness to manage these other-initiated conversations with intention and impact.

You will explore how to bring shape to impromptu exchanges, develop the key skills that fuel learning conversations and learn how to show up in ways that best serve the thinking and progress of the person in front of you.

What You Will Gain:

- Practical framework, for bringing shape and intention to in-the-moment conversations
- Enhanced skills and confidence to respond to "got a minute?" conversations in ways that support thinking and progress
- Immediately applicable strategies for adopting a coaching way of leading across a range of informal conversational contexts
- The capacity to raise awareness and encourage responsibility in team members
- The foundations to further build a culture of growth in your school, one conversation at a time

Session Information

FREE! Attend Live or Online

To engage in this Course, attendance at all five one hour live or virtual sessions is required.

Session 1 is online only
Sessions 2 – 5 are live or online options

Those who attend live sessions receive a complimentary book: *Growth Talk: A Coaching Way of Leading in Schools**

** First 30 registrants will receive the book*

Term 1	
Session 1 - Tuesday 2 March 4-5pm	Series Launch - Chris Munroe – online only
Session 2 – Tuesday 16 March 4-5pm	Claudia Owad
Session 3 – Tuesday 23 March 4-5pm	Claudia Owad
Term 2	
Session 4 – Tuesday 4th May 4-5pm	Claudia Owad
Session 5 – Tuesday 18 May 4-5pm	Claudia Owad

Session Content

Tuesday 2nd March

Session 1: A Coaching Way of Leading

What if leadership was less about having all the answers and more about creating conversations that inspire progress? In this session, you'll explore what it means to lead through a coaching approach in today's complex educational and corporate environments. Discover the power of being a purposeful conversation leader and learn how everyday interactions shape culture, learning, and engagement. You'll be introduced to the Learning Conversations Map and practical strategies you can use immediately. Walk away with a fresh perspective on leadership and the confidence to make every conversation count.

Delivered online only by Chris Munro Executive GCI Executive Director and author of the Course Book: *Growth Talk: A Coaching Way of Leading in Schools*

Tuesday 16 March

Session 2: Other-Initiated Conversations – "Have You Got a Minute?"

Some of the most important conversations happen unexpectedly. This practical session focuses on those every day "Have you got a minute?" moments that leaders face constantly. Learn a simple coaching approach that helps people gain clarity, identify what's working, and decide what to do next. Develop listening skills that encourage thinking rather than dependency. Leave equipped to turn brief conversations into meaningful opportunities for growth and action.

Delivered live and online by Claudia Owad GCI Director of Learning and Development

Tuesday 23 March

Session 3: Key Skills for Conversation Leaders

Great conversations don't happen by accident. In this session, you'll develop the essential skills that help leaders create thinking, learning, and progress in others. Explore powerful questioning, deep listening, paraphrasing, noticing, and sharing knowledge effectively. Through practical activities, you'll experience how different questions shape different outcomes. Strengthen your ability to lead conversations that generate clarity, confidence, and momentum.

Delivered live and online by Claudia Owad GCI Director of Learning and Development

Tuesday 4 May

Session 4: Dancing Around the GROWTH Framework

Effective conversations need both structure and flexibility. In this session, you'll learn how to use the GROWTH Framework to guide productive discussions while remaining responsive to the needs of the moment. Discover how to move naturally between goals, reality, resources, and next steps. Practise concise, solution-focused conversations that lead to meaningful action. You'll leave with a practical framework you can apply immediately in day-to-day leadership conversations.

Delivered live and online by Claudia Owad GCI Director of Learning and Development

Tuesday 18 May

Session 5: How We Talk Around Here

Culture is shaped one conversation at a time. In this final session, you'll reflect on the impact that everyday interactions have on your team, school, or organisation. Explore how intentional conversations create trust, learning, and a shared sense of purpose. Consider the habits and practices that strengthen a positive conversation culture. Leave inspired to lead conversations that not only solve problems but also shape the way people work and grow together.

Delivered live and online by GCI Claudia Owad Director of Learning and Development

Presenters



Chris Munro | Executive Director
Growth Coaching International (GCI)

Chris is passionate about professional growth and leadership and the powerful role that coaching and a coaching way of leading can play in these. He has extensive experience drawn from more than three decades as an educator and leader in Government and Independent schools, and in Higher Education.

As Executive Director of GCI, he describes his role as supporting others as they grapple with the intersection of strategy, leadership, learning and relationships – helping them make progress, one conversation at a time.

Chris is an active contributor to the field. He is the co-author of Growth Talk: A Coaching Way of Leading in Schools (Munro & Campbell, 2025) as well as chapters on Coaching Cultures for Learning

(Munro et al., 2020) and Coaching for Teacher Agency (Andrews & Munro, 2019). Chris was also a co-author of published research investigating school leaders' experiences of coaching on leadership development programs in Victoria, Australia (van Nieuwerburgh et al., 2020).

He is an accredited Senior Practitioner with EMCC Global, holds a Master of Research degree from the University of Aberdeen, and is a Fellow of the Australian Council for Educational Leaders in Victoria. A sought-after facilitator, Chris has presented in the United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand, Asia and the USA.



Claudia Owad | Director of Learning and Development
Growth Coaching International (GCI)

Claudia Owad is a highly experienced leadership and coaching professional with over 25 years of expertise in developing individuals, teams, and organizations across corporate, government, finance, education, health, and not-for-profit sectors. She is the Director of Learning and Development at Growth Coaching International (GCI), a global leader in coaching and leadership development.

A Master Practitioner with the European Mentoring and Coaching Council (EMCC), Claudia has extensive experience in developmental assessments and leadership training. She holds a Master of Applied Coaching Psychology from the University of Sydney and is a certified Solution-Focused Business Professional from the University of Wisconsin. Her expertise in coaching led her to serve on the board of the International Coaching Federation (ICF) Australasia.

Claudia is a sought-after speaker at national and international conferences, where she shares insights on the integration of Coaching and Positive Psychology in leadership and organizational development. Passionate about unlocking potential, she specializes in helping leaders and teams cultivate strengths-based, high-performance workplace cultures through a strategic and evidence-based approach. Her work focuses on empowering leaders through training, consultancy, and coaching, with a particular emphasis on creating flourishing workplace environments that drive engagement, productivity, and sustainable success



Dr Chris Furner | Director of The Learning Centre

Chris has held a number of teaching and leadership positions across State and Independent schools and is currently a member of the Executive Team at Hills Grammar. A career highlight has been the completion of a PhD on how to boost teacher learning across all career stages and the importance of professional learning to teacher practice, resilience and sense of belonging. Chris completed her training as a Coach with GCI and enjoys leading coaching within her school and for The Learning Centre.

Scan the code to register for The Learning Centre 2027 Series: Lead Like a Coach

Scan the code to register online

hillsgrammar.nsw.edu.au/thelearningcentre

The Learning Centre at Hills Grammar
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