

Nominate an excellent teacher for the QCT's Excellence in Teaching Awards



Promoting quality teachers since 1971

Excellence in Teaching nominations

The QCT Excellence in Teaching Awards provide an opportunity to showcase just some of the great teachers from across Queensland, and acknowledge those who inspire students each day. [Download a nomination form](#) and submit before 23 July. Finalists will be invited to participate in the presentation ceremony at Parliament House on World Teachers' Day, Friday 31 October 2014. The awards are proudly supported by *The Courier-Mail*, QT Mutual Bank & Teachers' Union Health.



Past teaching awards finalist Mark Lockett uses LEGO for excellence



Watch how The Southport School students use LEGO to enhance their learning of science, technology and maths. Mark Lockett's teaching is an example of the type of practice the Awards aim to recognise.

Focus on a Standard

Standard 7: Engage professionally with colleagues, parents/carers and the community

This eNews continues our focus on a specific standard or descriptor of the *Australian Professional Standards for Teachers* (APST) and support materials provided through the Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership's (AITSL's) *Illustrations of Practice*. The *Illustrations of Practice* demonstrate the APST in practice through videos, lesson plans or work samples developed in Australian schools. The focus in this issue is Standard 7: Engage professionally with colleagues, parents/carers and the community.

Standard 7 recognises that proficient teachers have a range of responsibilities related to codes of ethics and conduct established by regulatory authorities, systems and schools; and compliance with relevant legislative, administrative, organisational and professional requirements, policies and processes. Teachers demonstrating Standard 7 establish and maintain respectful collaborative relationships with parents/carers as well as participating in professional and community networks and forums to broaden their knowledge and improve practice.

The following examples from the *Illustrations of Practice* show how Standard 7 is enacted at the proficient level in different contexts. Each illustration also links to questions for discussion and, where applicable, to other descriptors and/or the Australian Curriculum.

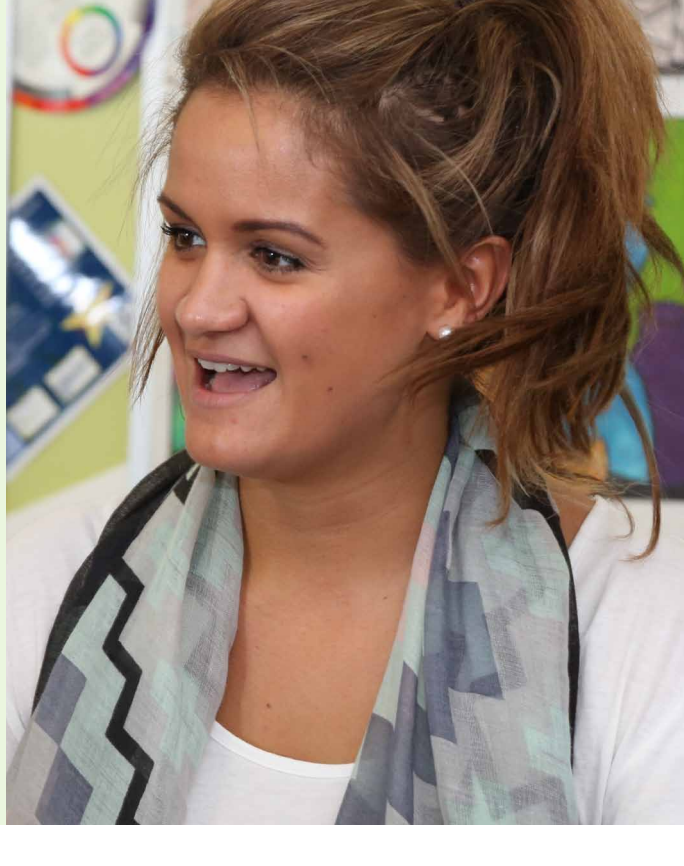
The *Illustrations of Practice* provide examples at all career stages. The examples below are at the proficient career stage, however there are also a number of illustrations at the highly accomplished and lead teacher career stages. Viewing and discussing *Illustrations of Practice* at other career stages can contribute to your professional learning, further demonstrating the application of Standard 6: Engage in Professional Learning.

Example of Focus Area 7.2

Comply with legislative, administrative and organisational requirements - The teachers in this example describe the implications of complying with relevant administrative, organisational and legislative requirements, policies and processes when working with community volunteers. They address issues ranging from the sun safe policy to police checks and mandatory reporting and the development of school and system appropriate volunteer policies.

Example of Focus Area 7.3

Engage with the parents/carers - The teacher outlines the importance of engaging for parents/carers in her school and demonstrates how this can be achieved responsively and respectfully in both formal and informal situations such as scheduled reporting interviews and class visits to assist with teaching activities.



My Standards app is now available for teachers

My Standards has been developed to facilitate increased engagement in performance and development, and to promote teacher quality. Teachers can save videos, photos or audio recordings of their teaching on their device or in cloud storage. This allows teachers to develop a collection of evidence for self-reflection, and to share with colleagues and school leaders for performance and development conversations and career development. My Standards can be accessed from the [My Standards webpage](#) or direct from the App Store (coming soon to Google Play).

My Standards

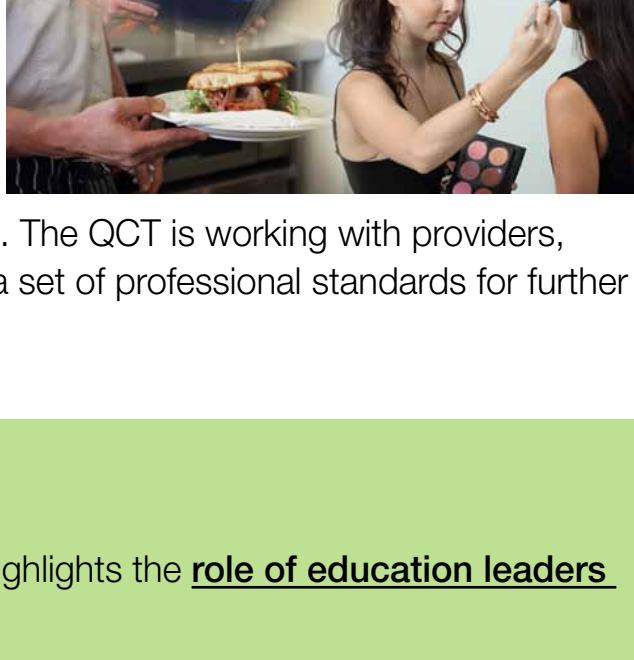
The free My Standards app makes the *Australian Professional Standards for Teachers* accessible anywhere, anytime. Collect and annotate your own artefacts, referenced to the Standards to inform and evidence your professional growth.

- Take control of your professional growth by regularly collecting evidence and reflecting on your practice
- Create video, photo or audio artefacts of your professional practice as it happens
- Annotate artefacts and map to the Standards
- Export your artefacts to cloud storage and access from any computer, mobile or tablet
- Connect the Standards to your practice to inform your professional discussions and career development

Download My Standards today www.aitsl.edu.au/mystandards

Further Education and Training webinar for practitioners – 26 June

A webinar to discuss and invite comment on aspects of the professional standards being developed for the further education and training sector is scheduled for 26 June from 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm. Registration will be available through the [VELG website](#) or feel free to join the discussion via LinkedIn by visiting the Professional Standards for Further Education and Training Practitioners Group. The QCT is working with providers, unions and other stakeholders in the sector to define a set of professional standards for further education and training practitioners in Queensland.



Developing or Departing?

A commentary piece in the June issue of QELI news highlights the [role of education leaders in supporting tomorrow's teachers](#). A review of the QCT register indicates that almost 14 per cent of newly registered Queensland graduate teachers leave teaching within their first five years. More information about the attrition rate of Queensland graduate teachers is available [here](#).

Teacher Education Review

The QCT has responded to the [Teacher Education Ministerial Advisory Group's \(TEMAG\) recent issues paper](#) about initial teacher education programs. The response is available on the [QCT website](#).

Introducing the Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority

The Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority (QCAA) will commence work from 1 July 2014. The QCAA will assume all Queensland Studies Authority functions and be responsible for implementing new initiatives in curriculum, assessment and tertiary entrance. It will also focus on achieving greater engagement with the education community from kindergarten to Year 12. Students and teachers and other education personnel can anticipate a seamless transition to the new organisation. You will find the QCAA website at www.qcaa.qld.edu.au.

Participants sought for research project on teacher stress-management strategies

Griffith University Master of Education student and registered primary school teacher, Amanda Welch, is investigating the diversity and frequency of stress management strategies used by teachers and the effectiveness of these. Primary school teachers are invited to complete a 10-minute online survey specific to stress experienced in the workplace. Personal contact information is not requested and the researchers will be unable to identify respondents. A summary report of findings will be sent to the Queensland College of Teachers for dissemination to teachers. Ethical approval for this research has been given by Griffith University (EDN/C6/13/HREC). **Further information and the survey are accessible here** or contact Amanda Welch at amanda.welch@griffithuni.edu.au.

The Song Room

A national not-for-profit organisation that brightens the futures of Australia's most disadvantaged children with tailored, high-quality music and arts programs.

At the heart of The Song Room is a range of unique music and arts programs. Programs operate for a minimum of six months to give children the opportunity to participate in music and the arts to enhance their education, personal development and community involvement. The Song Room uses a range of programs to achieve its vision that all children in Australia have access to music/creative arts education and one of these is the in-school workshop program that is delivered by a Song Room Teaching Artist. Schools are selected based on the funding received to work with selected demographics and regions, such as areas of low socio-economic status or new arrivals. There are lots of ways to get involved with [The Song Room](#).



ecia

ECIA National Conference 2014

This conference will provide a quality forum of investigative discussion and debate around evidence-based research and findings in relation to best practice in early childhood intervention. For more information [visit the conference website](#).

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