



WORLD TEACHERS' DAY Student Challenge nominate now

**Win cash
for your school**

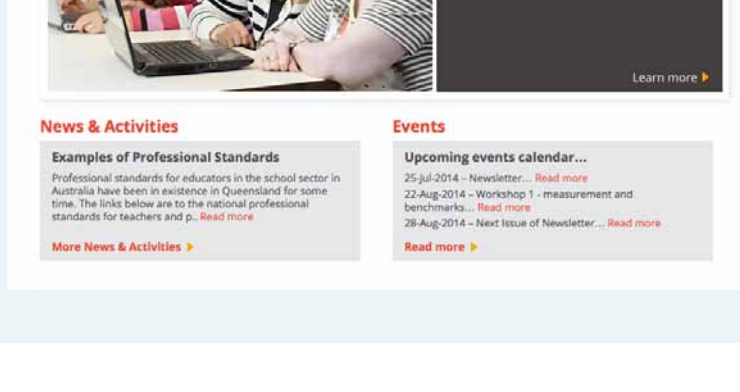
The World Teachers' Day student challenge is open for any Queensland school student or group of students from Prep to Year 12 to create a digital product that expresses the theme, *A teacher's commitment to their students' learning is inspirational*. Simply invite students to create a digital product showing how their teacher is inspirational and send this to the QCT before 10 October 2014. Visit www.qct.edu.au/wtdstudentchallenge for more information. Within each school sector there are two prizes of \$500 and a major prize of \$1500 courtesy of QT Mutual Bank.

Get involved with professional standards for FET practitioners

The Queensland Government's reform plan ***Great Skills, Real Opportunities***, action area 2.7, notes that quality training outcomes for vocational education and training participants depend on the professionalism of trainers and assessors. As the regulatory authority for the teaching profession in Queensland, the QCT has been tasked by the Queensland Government to develop a set of standards for FET practitioners.

The development of professional standards will help to develop the professionalism of trainers and assessors. The standards will be a public statement by the profession of what FET practitioners in Queensland training organisations need to know, understand and be able to do. They will also provide a common reference point for describing, celebrating and supporting the complex and varied work of FET practitioners.

For the standards to be genuinely owned by the FET profession we are providing numerous opportunities for members of the FET profession to be involved. Visit <http://fet.qct.edu.au> to see how you can be involved and help develop this important work.



NEW website

Learn more about the development of professional standards for further education and training practitioners by accessing the new website <http://fet.qct.edu.au>.

Contact us via FETProject@qct.edu.au for more information or sign up on the website to receive regular newsletters.

Web conferences

The QCT web conferences are back in Term 3 and Term 4 including the Student Free Day on Monday 20 October. There are programs for provisionally registered teachers and fully registered teachers. Attendance at a web conference contributes to professional development hours. Further details are available on the [QCT website](http://www.qct.edu.au).

Know your profession

At the end of July 2014:

99,372 teachers are registered in Queensland

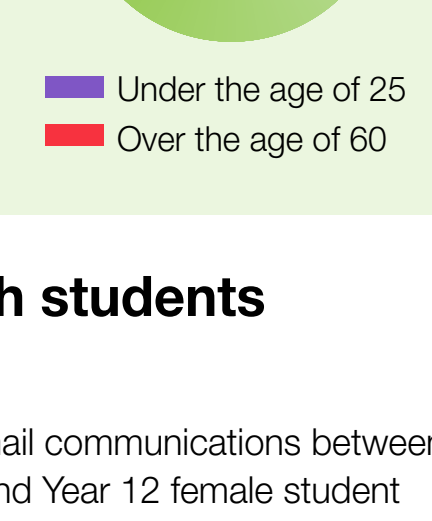
13% of the registered teachers are over the age of 60

4% of the registered teachers are under the age of 25

Average age of all registered teachers is 44.5 years

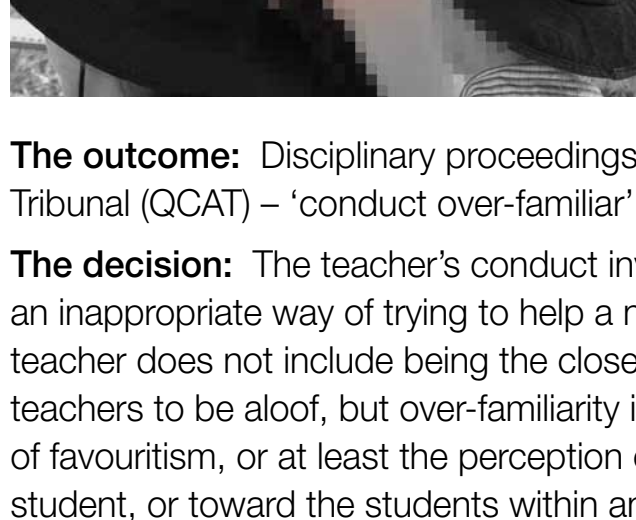
Average age of all applicants for teacher registration is 34.1 years

Registered Teachers in Qld



The dangers of having friendships with students

Can teachers be friends with their students?



The scenario: Email communications between a female teacher and Year 12 female student demonstrating a friendship including references to each other as 'sister', and 'gorgeous girl'. The friendship included spending time together outside of school, the teacher buying gifts, the student discussing and the teacher giving advice on personal problems. No indication of a relationship other than a friendship. The student perceived the teacher was her 'best friend'.

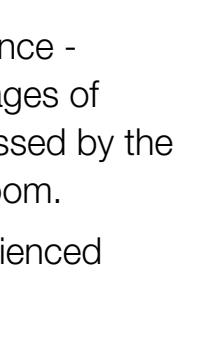
The outcome: Disciplinary proceedings before the Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal (QCAT) – 'conduct over-familiar'. Registration cancelled.

The decision: The teacher's conduct involved misguided efforts to build rapport and was an inappropriate way of trying to help a needy student gain confidence: 'proper role of a teacher does not include being the close friend of students. The community does not expect teachers to be aloof, but over-familiarity is to be avoided. Over-familiarity carries a real risk of favouritism, or at least the perception of favouritism, by the teacher toward a particular student, or toward the students within an inner clique'. With respect to the personal problems discussions: 'the teacher should have referred [the student] to the school counsellor or another professional instead of encouraging her to become emotionally dependent'. A copy of QCAT's reasons for their decision is accessible at www.sclqld.org.au/caselaw/QCAT/2013/631

Learning: Although it can be difficult to get the balance right, teachers should be mindful of over-stepping professional boundaries with students.

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1000 years of teaching

In the May eNEWS, the QCT advertised casual employment opportunities for experienced teachers and administrators, including those who had recently retired. Selected applicants will primarily be involved in assessing portfolio applications for the QCT.

We were overwhelmed by the interest in these positions and appreciated the high level of expertise and experience in our professional community.

We conducted the training in June for those who were selected in the first instance - educators from all over Queensland who had worked in a range of systems, stages of schooling and subject areas as well as interstate and overseas. We were impressed by the discovery that there was over a thousand years of teaching experience in the room.

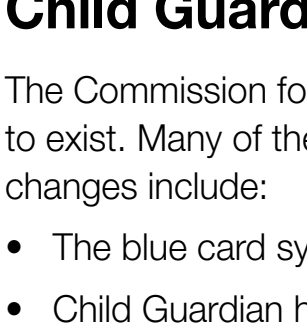
The Queensland College of Teachers is very fortunate to have a wealth of experienced professionals willing to continue to contribute to the education community.

Create transformational change as a Stronger Smarter school leader

The Stronger Smarter Leadership Program (SSLP) is a nationally acclaimed professional development course that aims to challenge and support school and community leaders in the pursuit of educational excellence for all students. Grounded in the work of Dr Chris Sarra, the SSLP focuses on building High Expectations Relationships and equips participants with the skills to challenge their assumptions, embrace complex social and cultural contexts and actively engage their local communities. Described as "life-changing", the program offers critical tools for professional practice and deep personal reflection.

Participation in an SSLP involves a six-day residential in Cherbourg, a two-day follow up workshop and regular contact with Institute staff. Accommodation and meals are provided.

The next SSLP is...	Phase 1	Phase 2	Cost
National Program	14 – 19 September	26 – 27 November	\$3900 (+GST)



To join the network of school and community leaders using the Stronger Smarter approach, visit our website - <http://strongersmarter.com.au/leadership/apply/>, email us on enquiries@strongersmarter.com.au or call 07 5499 4135.



Commission for Children and Young People and Child Guardian has ceased operation

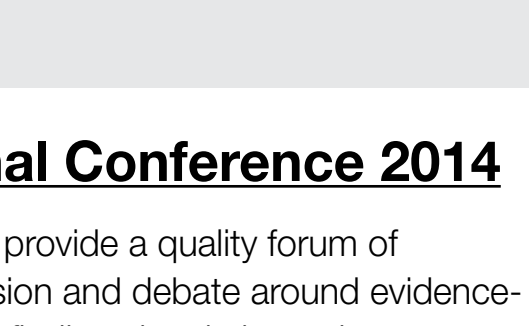
The Commission for Children and Young People and Child Guardian (CCYPCG) has ceased to exist. Many of the former functions of the CCYPCG have moved to other agencies. Key changes include:

- The blue card system has transferred to the **Public Safety Business Agency**.
- Child Guardian has combined with the Adult Guardian to form the Public Guardian, providing individual advocacy for children and young people in the child protection system.
- Visits to the most vulnerable children and young people in out-of-home care will be undertaken by the new **Office of the Public Guardian**.
- The Child Death Case Review Committee is replaced by a new child case review panel supported by the Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services (DCCSDS), to consider reviews conducted by its Chief Executive.
- Child-related complaints will be investigated by the relevant department with oversight by the Queensland Ombudsman.
- Strategic oversight of the child protection system and promoting the safety, well-being and best interests of children and young people is referred to the new Queensland Family and Child Commission.

The CCYPCG website has been archived, but access to important research and publications held by the CCYPCG is available through the Queensland Family and Child Commission website at www.qfcc.qld.gov.au.

Cancer Council Queensland provides free program for schools

QUEST is Cancer Council Queensland's new FREE healthy lifestyle program for schools. The QUEST program is accessed through an online web portal where organisations can register, identify which health strategies they would like to introduce and track their progress. Join QUEST today to access a library of tools and resources that will assist your school to make the healthy choice, the easy choice. To join QUEST or find out more go to <https://quest.org.au>



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](#).

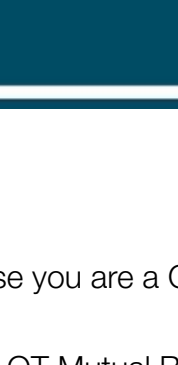


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Single	\$139.10	\$162.60	\$163.60	\$207.65
Single parent	\$208.65	\$257.20	\$273.20	\$353.02
Family	\$278.20	\$325.20	\$327.20	\$415.30

This general comparison is based on the Qld full monthly premium, before any rebate or lifetime loading is calculated. Rates are effective from 2 April 2014 and are subject to change. Source: www.privatehealth.gov.au

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This email was sent by Queensland College of Teachers, Level 10 Sherwood House, 39 Sherwood Road, Toowong, Brisbane, QLD, Australia, 4066. ABN 49 750 572 133.

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