

News for teachers from the QCT

October 2013

QCT eNews is published by the Queensland College of Teachers (QCT) for Queensland approved teachers. It is emailed every second month during the school year to all those on our register with an email address.

The QCT protects the public and the teaching profession by working to ensure that all teachers in Queensland schools meet professional standards of competence and conduct.

In this final edition of QCT eNews for 2013 you'll find information about:

- **Great teachers across Queensland recognised**
- **World Teachers' Day - Friday 25 October 2013**
- **QCT web conferences**
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Great teachers across Queensland recognised

Some 200 teachers were nominated for the 2013 QCT Excellence in Teaching Awards. The QCT recognises that there are thousands of great teachers inspiring students every day across a range of year levels and different curriculum areas. We would like to thank local communities for sharing their success stories through the nomination process of the QCT Excellence in Teaching Awards. While there can only be four award recipients, we believe that all teachers deserve recognition for their hard work and dedication to the teaching profession.

Minister for Education, Training and Employment, John-Paul Langbroek, will present the QCT awards to the four recipients at a special World Teachers' Day celebration at Parliament House

on Friday 25 October 2013. Finalists are listed on the QCT website at www.qct.edu.au/wtd/excellence-awards.html.



World Teachers' Day - Friday 25 October 2013

World Teachers' Day recognises the important role teachers play in today's world. Celebrated in over 100 countries, World Teachers' Day is symbolic of the hard work done in classrooms and of hopes for our next generation. Introduced in 1994 by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), it is a day on which students, parents and community members are encouraged to show their appreciation for the contributions that teachers have made to their community.

World Teachers' Day posters produced by the QCT have been mailed to schools for display in classrooms. Schools are encouraged to mention in their newsletters that teacher appreciation certificates are available for download from the QCT website. [See our colourful webpage for more information.](#)

With World Teachers' Day fast approaching (Friday 25 October this year), readers may care to have a look at the following websites for a reminder of what the Day is all about and for some great ideas about celebrating it.

World Teachers' Day is celebrated on 5 October each year throughout most of the world. In Australia the Day is celebrated on the last Friday in October as 5 October usually falls during school holidays.

www.unesco.org/new/en/world-teachers-day

www.worldteachersday.org/map

www.ei-ie.org/en/news/news_details/2714



QCT web conferences

The QCT is now presenting information about the *Australian Professional Standards for Teachers* and registration policies and processes via web conference.

The series offers teachers a range of modules and includes key messages from the face-to-face workshops the QCT conducted during 2013.

The schedule of web conferences is available at the following link: www.qct.edu.au/Events/WebConference.html

Registered teachers can enrol in the sessions via the QCT website. Education Queensland teachers can register via The Learning Place.

Module 4, 'Supporting provisionally registered teachers to transition to full registration', is designed to provide general information about the new application process for teachers moving from provisional to full registration and an evidence guide for the school-based reviewer (Deputy Principals/ Principals). This module starts on 24 October.

The initial modules provide general information about QCT requirements. Tailored versions of these modules for particular groups will be released in the coming months and early in 2014. Sessions are coming soon for registered teachers transitioning to full registration who are working in kindergarten and long day care settings.



Focus on a standard

The Australian Professional Standards for Teachers (APST) describe the range and complexity of teachers' work across the domains of professional knowledge, professional practice and professional engagement, and also inform professional development and registration decisions at different career junctures.

In each issue of *QCT eNews* during 2013 we are focusing on a specific standard by providing general information as well as links to resources such as the *Illustrations of Practice* commissioned by the Australian Institute of Teaching and School Leadership (AITSL).

In this edition our focus is on **Standard 1: Know students and how they learn.**

Standard 1 highlights the need for teachers to understand characteristics of individual students such as their physical, social

and intellectual development and the diverse linguistic, cultural, religious and socioeconomic backgrounds from which they come.

Understanding students' characteristics and backgrounds is essential to inform the differentiated teaching strategies and support chosen to meet and fully support the specific learning needs of students across the full range of abilities.

Within AITSL's Illustrations of Practice, the following three examples focus on how this Standard is enacted at the Proficient level across different contexts, as well as interacting with other Standards.

www.teacherstandards.aitsl.edu.au/Illustrations/Details/IOP00078

1.4 – This secondary dance teacher demonstrates how she designs and implements effective teaching strategies that are responsive to the local community and cultural setting of her Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students as well as challenging her gifted and talented students' technical skills.

www.teacherstandards.aitsl.edu.au/Illustrations/Details/IOP00098

1.5 – This early years teacher shares how she designs and teaches a literacy lesson to a Year 1 class incorporating strategies that target the individual needs and strengths of her students. She works with a small group of students using a visual aid to stimulate oral language. Other small group activities are organised to cater for the varying abilities of the students in the class.

www.teacherstandards.aitsl.edu.au/Illustrations/Details/IOP00066

1.6 – This upper primary teacher supports full participation of a student with physical and intellectual disabilities. She collaborates with teachers and School Services Officers (SSOs) across the school to ensure that everyone is working towards a common goal to improve the student's learning, and discusses induction processes including the staff handbook with policy information.

AITSL has also developed a self-assessment tool that can assist teachers to identify for themselves their areas of strength and areas for development. It is available at the following link:

www.selfassessment.aitsl.edu.au

Copies of the APST can be downloaded from

www.qct.edu.au/Standards/view.html



QCT Research Digest

Look out for QCT Research Digest No. 10, on improving reading comprehension in all curriculum areas, in relation to print and digital texts – coming soon.



Review of Queensland senior assessment and tertiary entrance processes

The Queensland Government has commissioned the Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER) to conduct an independent review of Queensland senior assessment and tertiary entrance processes. In order to assist their deliberations, the reviewers, Professor Geoff Masters (CEO) and Dr Gabrielle Matters (PRF), are gathering information through public consultations, informing papers, research activities, and analyses of data about current procedures and outcomes. The review, which started in July, will be completed by the end of July 2014.

ACER has launched a website with public access so that you can read reports, discussion papers and updates on the review. ACER's plan for the consultation process will appear on the website soon.

We encourage you to visit the website:

www.acer.edu.au/queenslandreview



National surveys of teachers

To support the implementation of the Australian Professional Standards for Teachers and other teacher quality initiatives, AITSL is conducting three [national online surveys](#) from August to December 2013. While each survey has a different focus, they are all seeking the views of practising teachers and school leaders to inform and shape future work.



AITSL eNews

Teachers who are not already aware of AITSL's monthly newsletter may be interested in subscribing to this informative publication – go to

<http://www.aitsl.edu.au/media/enews/enews.html>



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