

A Fresh Start

Professional Experience Reporting Framework

A common Professional Experience Reporting Framework will ensure a streamlined and moderated approach to the assessment of professional experience, and will support supervising teachers and placement schools in their assessment of preservice teachers.

The Department of Education, Training and Employment's *A Fresh Start* strategy comprises a range of reforms including a common professional experience reporting framework for initial teacher education programs offered in Queensland.

Professional experience is a core component of initial teacher education programs, providing preservice teachers with an opportunity to link theory and practice in a school setting. Professional experiences (sometimes referred to as 'practicum') help preservice teachers practise teaching in a school setting under the direct supervision and guidance of experienced teachers.

Successful completion of professional experience is a prerequisite for eligibility for registration and employment as a teacher. Currently, reporting expectations for preservice teachers undertaking professional experience vary across institutions.

The development and implementation of a common Professional Experience Reporting Framework, reflective of the Australian Professional Standards for Teachers, will:

- develop cooperative approaches to assessment, monitoring and reporting
- ensure a common language and understanding of the skills and knowledge required of preservice teachers
- foster assessment practices based on agreed assessment principles
- support consistent and reliable assessment by academic and school based personnel, and
- help schooling sectors better identify the best graduate teachers for employment.

Higher education institutions wanting to access Queensland schools for professional experience will need to commit to implementing the framework.

The framework will provide consistency and clarity across Queensland schooling sectors and higher education institutions. It will provide evidence that the theoretical and practical aspects of teacher education programs have been demonstrated, and will ensure supervising teachers can provide constructive feedback on a preservice teacher's performance.

Development

One of the challenges of reporting on professional experience is to capture the complex and reflective nature of a teacher's work in contemporary school settings.

The reporting framework will be developed by an expert writing group drawing upon similar work currently being undertaken by the Australian Institute of Teaching and School Leadership.

The group will be representative of all stakeholders and will draw upon expert knowledge within higher education institutions.

The framework may include:

- guiding principles and common terminology
- a rubric to ensure consistency in expectations and assessment of preservice teachers
- a common professional experience evaluation format for final year preservice teachers, and
- protocols for professional experience supervision, including management of underperformance.

Implementation

It is expected that professional experience undertaken in a Queensland school as part of an initial teacher education program will be undertaken in accordance with the common Professional Experience Reporting Framework from the start of the 2015 school year.

Further information

Information about the *A Fresh Start* strategy, including Professional Experience Partnership Agreements and the common Professional Experience Reporting Framework is available at: www.flyingstart.qld.gov.au

