

<b>Vision:</b>	The Australian Association of Teaching Schools is dedicated to enhancing teacher training through a dynamic teaching school model, fostering the attraction of Initial Teacher Education students, increasing classroom readiness, and enhancing teacher retention. The AATS ultimately seeks to ensure an increased supply of contextually skilled and proficiently trained educators.
<b>Purpose:</b>	AATS aims to provide: <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a forum for pursuing excellence and innovation in the three equal partners of teaching school hubs, participating schools, and tertiary institutions,</li><li>a forum for partners to collaborate and exchange ideas,</li><li>benchmarking around quality standards,</li><li>a representative voice on behalf of teaching schools in media, policy and communication,</li><li>a credible entity for sourcing and distributing funding,</li><li>quality supportive events that promote our stated purpose, and</li><li>to advise and participate in co-design of teacher education between tertiary and schools.</li></ol>
<b>Membership Benefits:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❖ Discounted rates to the annual Think Tank to collectively brainstorm and imagine innovation for our common purpose.</li><li>❖ Representation and advocacy in the policy and political arenas to support and promote the needs and development of ITE training in the hub model.</li><li>❖ Early access to research informed benchmarks for teaching schools.</li><li>❖ Connection and collaboration regarding co-design and teaching school development.</li><li>❖ Communication and sharing of resources, methodology for latest innovation, development and research.</li></ul>
<b>Joining Fee*</b>	\$250 / Teaching School \$250 / Tertiary Institution * Annual fee scale to be determined.

## Rationale:

The formation of the Australian Association of Teaching Schools represents a milestone in the evolution of teacher training in Australia.

From its humble beginnings just six years ago, the Teaching School Hub model now represents an additional sector for initial teacher education. There are now numerous Teaching School Hubs in Australia, representing several tertiary providers, over 100 schools, and many ITE trainees. The model also is informed by the UK and other global trends in ITE, but it is distinctively Australian.

The Teaching School Hub model is an answer to several perennial challenges to ITE in Australia, including:

- A national shortage of teachers
- A failure to maintain the value of the profession
- A failure to attract high quality school leavers or career changers
- A failure to train teachers to be context and classroom ready
- A failure to train or retain teachers in hard to staff regions

The Teaching School Hub model upholds a number of key distinctives:

- The importance of strong partnerships between tertiary and industry
- The indispensable role that schools and teachers play in forming quality teachers
- The need to give schools agency and voice in teacher training
- The valuable place of embedded/clinical placement with long-term mentoring
- The need to integrate tertiary academic learning with the on-the-ground pragmatics of teaching
- The pivotal role of the 'third space' where tertiary and school combine to catalyse integration