

Media Release

The Hon Natalie Hutchins MP
Minister for Education
Minister for Women



Saturday, 20 May 2023

FELLOWSHIPS TO TRANSFORM TEACHER PRACTICE AND STUDENT LEARNING

The Andrews Labor Government is backing teachers to pursue a range of innovative projects, delivering better educational outcomes for students by improving teaching, learning, inclusion and wellbeing in schools.

Minister for Education Natalie Hutchins today announced 30 teachers from 26 government and non-government schools have been awarded Teaching Innovation Fellowships, sharing in more than \$770,000 as part of the Teaching Excellence program from the Victorian Academy of Teaching and Leadership.

The Fellowships include funding, professional learning and mentoring for recipients to design and implement a 12-month innovation project to address an identified critical challenge in their classrooms or schools.

Fellowship recipients include:

- Joshua McQuade from St Monica's College, Epping, to develop and implement a new multi-disciplinary STEM curriculum by harnessing the knowledge of STEM expert teachers in the school.
- Shae Attrill and Kimberley Silva from Mount Rowan Secondary College to improve teaching quality and teacher confidence, while fostering cultural connection and building Koorie students' sense of self-determination, voice and agency.
- Birra-Li Ward and Sarah Edwards from Frankston High School to explore teacher and student collaboration across Art and Science to create real-world, problem-based learning solutions.
- Obayda Kannouj from Al-Taqwa College, to design and implement a media arts project that empowers students to engage with their communities and use filmmaking to creatively explore their cultural, language and community identity.

Fellowships will enable and support excellent teachers to be agents of change in their schools and across the education system, while the Victorian Academy of Teaching and Leadership will ensure their key learnings and experiences are shared with teachers and school leaders across the state.

The Fellowships are funded through the Victorian Academy of Teaching and Leadership in which the Labor Government has invested \$148.2 million over four years, enabling exceptional teachers to design professional learning solutions for teachers led by teachers.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Education Natalie Hutchins

"The Academy's Teaching Innovation Fellowships present a wonderful opportunity for recipients to implement an innovation project that transforms teacher practice and student learning in their classrooms or schools."

"Further developing high-performing teachers is key to delivering long-term improvements in student outcomes, so this investment in Victorian teachers also means a profound investment in our students."

Quote attributable to Dr Marcia Devlin AM, CEO Victorian Academy of Teaching and Leadership

"We are pleased to provide our inaugural Fellowship recipients with the opportunity to lead such transformative teaching and professional learning projects, and to positively impact on student outcomes."

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