
9 December 2020

A Year of Triumph for 30 Exceptional Independent School Teachers

The COVID-19 global pandemic did not stop 30 Queensland independent school teachers from completing an 18-month national certification program in 2020 that cements their standing among the nation's most accomplished.

The regional and metropolitan teachers have been certified by Independent Schools Queensland (ISQ) as Highly Accomplished and Lead Teachers (HALT) - the two most advanced levels of the Australian Professional Standards for Teachers (see list of schools below).

They will be formally recognised at a ceremony at Customs House in Brisbane tonight (9 December).

These teachers bring to 86 the total number of HALTs working in Queensland independent schools and join a further 750 certified teachers nationwide.

HALT certification is overseen nationally by the Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership (AITSL) and undertaken locally by certifying authorities including ISQ. Teachers applying for certification undergo a rigorous evaluation process that involves gathering evidence of their teaching practices, classroom observations and peer and student reviews.

ISQ Executive Director David Robertson said the latest HALT-certified independent school educators were representative of the high calibre of teaching expertise in the sector.

"Teaching is a vocation – it's the heart's work of the men and women who choose to lead and inspire learning in classrooms, early learning centres, music rooms, science labs, skill centres and on sporting fields across the state," Mr Robertson said.

"These HALTs are influencers in the classroom and staffroom. They bring energy, passion and exceptional practice to their schools every day, which benefits their students and colleagues," he said.

AITSL Chief Executive Officer Mark Grant commended the newly certified Queensland independent school HALTs "for their commitment to grow and develop their professional expertise, for the benefit of student learning, despite the many challenges that 2020 has brought with it".

In 2020, 30 teachers at the following independent schools achieved Highly Accomplished (second highest level) or Lead Teacher (highest level) certification.

- Annandale Christian College (North Queensland)
- Cannon Hill Anglican College (Brisbane)
- Coomera Anglican College (Gold Coast)
- Fairholme College (Toowoomba)
- [Ipswich Adventist School](#)
- John Paul College (Logan)
- [Matthew Flinders Anglican College \(Sunshine Coast\)](#)
- Mueller College (Rothwell, Moreton Bay region)
- Saint Stephen's College (Gold Coast)
- St Aidan's Anglican Girls' School (Corinda, Brisbane)
- [St Andrew's Anglican College \(Sunshine Coast\)](#)
- St Luke's Anglican School (Bundaberg)
- The Rockhampton Grammar School
- West Moreton Anglican College (Ipswich)

These teachers join 56 existing HALT-certified teachers in Queensland's independent school sector.

Listen to ISQ's [School Bell Podcast with QUT's Dr Jill Willis](#) who is working with ISQ's HALT certification program and researching its outcomes.

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