Professional Learning Guide 2027

Independent Schools Queensland
choice & diversity



FIND OUT MORE ABOUT ISQ PROFESSIONAL LEARNING EVENTS
connectandlearn.isq.qld.edu.au/login



Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners

ISQ pays respect to the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the lands, waterways, skies, islands and sea Country on which we live, work and learn, recognising that these places have always been places of teaching, knowledge sharing and learning. ISQ pays respect to Elders, past and present and extends this respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples, recognising theirs as the oldest continuous living cultures in human history.

This commitment underpins ISQ's approach to professional learning and supports culturally responsive practices across leadership, teaching, wellbeing and school improvement. We acknowledge, celebrate and support the contributions of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples to education in this country and recognise the important role we all play in supporting the ongoing journey of reconciliation through education.

ISQ thanks its 2027 Alliance Partners

Independent Schools Queensland (ISQ) partners with organisations that share our commitment to making a difference. ISQ's Alliance Partnerships are built on trust, commitment and responsibility, with partners that lead with value.

Contents

Professional Learning at ISQ	01
Supporting Regional Schools	02
Registering for ISQ Professional Learning	03
Staying Up To Date	03
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Histories and Cultures	04
AI in Education	05
Boarding	06
Career Stage Programs	07
Child Safeguarding	09
Communications & Media	10
Early Childhood Education and Care	11
Employee Relations	12
Governance	13
Inclusive Education	14
International Education	17
Leadership	18
Operations	19
Parent Engagement	20
Student Behaviour, Respectful Relationships and Classroom Management	22
Teaching and Learning	24
Vocational Education and Training (VET)	26
Wellbeing and Trauma Aware Practice	27
Workforce Innovation	29
Queensland Independent Schools Summit (QISS)	31

Follow us to stay up to date with education news and policy insights, ISQ's latest research and more.

Disclaimer: To the best of our knowledge and belief, the information contained in this publication is correct at the date of publication. However, Independent Schools Queensland and its staff give no warranty or guarantee and accept no liability for any loss or damage arising from reliance on, or use of, this information.



Independent Schools Queensland (ISQ) is the specialist professional learning provider for Queensland's independent schooling sector.

Our experienced team is committed to delivering high-quality services, knowledge, advice and support that help member schools strengthen practice and achieve the best possible outcomes for their students and communities. This includes supporting schools to create culturally responsive and safe environments where students, families and communities are respected, valued and able to thrive. Our professional learning is practical, relevant and evidence informed. Designed around adult learning principles, it builds on participants' experience and supports collaboration, reflection, application and sustained professional growth.

We offer a comprehensive range of professional learning and services to support the diverse roles, career stages, priorities and locations of school staff. Opportunities are delivered in a range of modes, including online delivery, to support access to high-quality professional learning for our members across Queensland. We recognise that every school is unique. Alongside our scheduled offerings, ISQ can partner with schools to design tailored professional learning that responds to their contexts, strategic priorities and improvement goals.

I encourage school leaders to explore the 2027 ISQ Professional Learning Guide and share it with your teams as they plan their professional learning for the year ahead.

Further information about our programs, events and online learning, including registration details, is available through ISQ's professional learning portal, Connect&Learn, or by contacting our team.

Christopher Mountford
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Professional learning at ISQ

ISQ delivers high-quality, evidence-informed professional learning that equips educators and school leaders to drive excellence in student outcomes, drawing on nearly 60 years of experience in independent schooling and education innovation.

Programs

Programs support schools to strengthen practice over time by building knowledge and supporting practical application in their school contexts.

Conferences, summits and forums

Conferences, summits and forums offer big ideas from contemporary thought leaders, experts and industry practitioners. They also provide opportunities to connect, share and learn from colleagues.

Masterclasses and webinars

Led by experts or advisors, masterclasses provide an in-depth exploration of a specific topic, while webinars offer concise, presenter-led learning online.

Workshops

Workshops actively engage participants to apply learning to their work. They also provide opportunities to connect, share and learn from colleagues.

e-Learning

ISQ's online courses and individual modules support members with high-quality professional learning available anytime.

Customised professional learning experiences

Whether you are seeking a single session or sustained engagement over time, ISQ can partner with you to design tailored professional learning that responds to the context and needs of your system, school or team.

Tailored support is available across ISQ's professional learning areas, including AI, behaviour, child safeguarding, classroom management, complaints management, cultural safety and responsiveness, curriculum planning and implementation, embedding Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives, fraud prevention, governance and other operational matters, inclusive practices, literacy, the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data (NCCD), numeracy, parent engagement, pedagogy, privacy, respectful relationships, school improvement, student engagement and wellbeing.

For inquiries, please contact office@isq.qld.edu.au.

KEY

Major events | **Regional events**

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Photo courtesy of The Cathedral School of St Anne and St James

Supporting regional schools

About 37% of independent schools are located in regional or remote Queensland and educate about 26% of all independent school students. Professional learning delivered across regional, rural and remote Queensland recognises the diversity of local communities and supports schools to strengthen culturally responsive practices relevant to their local context.

Our professional learning program is designed to ensure members in regional areas have access to a rich and varied range of learning opportunities. Whether schools are seeking to build capability, connect with peers or explore new ideas, there are opportunities to meet a range of needs.

To support participation across all regions, professional learning is offered in four flexible formats:

- Hybrid and online masterclasses, workshops and webinars that can be accessed from any location
- Blended programs with a mix of in-person and online events
- Self-paced online courses and modules for learning at your convenience
- In-person regional events for those who value face-to-face learning.

Registering for ISQ professional learning

Registering for ISQ professional learning is quick and easy. To access the links in this guide, hover over the program, event date or course name to show the clickable hyperlink, then click.

Information about ISQ programs, events, courses and modules can be accessed through the following platforms:

Programs: Available on the ISQ Member Hub under Quick Links.

Events: Available via the Connect&Learn portal by searching the ISQ Events Calendar on the dashboard or selecting the ISQ Events tab.

Courses and Modules: Available through the Connect&Learn portal by selecting Courses – Course Search/Catalogue.

Training Records and Certificates: Access event attendance records and certificates through the Connect&Learn portal by selecting Training Record – Training/Event Record & Certificates.

Before clicking on links to Connect&Learn locations (including specific event links within this guide), log in to Connect&Learn in your browser.

Before registering, participants should obtain approval in accordance with their school's or organisation's processes if the program or event involves a cost or requires staff replacement.

For help:

- email helpdesk@isq.qld.edu.au
- on the Connect&Learn portal select HelpDesk – Submit Ticket.

Stay Informed

Keep up to date with the ISQ news, events and opportunities most relevant to you. Update your email preferences today.

SUBSCRIBE NOW

Staying up to date

While ISQ has made every effort to ensure the event descriptions and dates in this guide are accurate, please follow the links to confirm details before registering.

Focus Area Updates are regularly emailed to subscribers. To check you've subscribed to the relevant Focus Area Updates, log into Connect&Learn, click on your initials in the top right, click 'Edit Profile' and check your subscriptions.

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Professional Learning Focuses

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Histories and Cultures

Embedding **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures,** one of the three cross-curriculum priorities of the Australian Curriculum, is a shared responsibility across all areas of school life and an important part of delivering high-quality education for every student. Meaningful engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives enables students to develop a deeper understanding of Australia's histories, cultures, languages, knowledges and contemporary experiences, while fostering respect, cultural understanding and connection.

ISQ supports member schools to authentically embed Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives across curriculum, pedagogy, leadership, governance and school culture. This work extends beyond curriculum requirements and contributes to culturally responsive learning environments where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students, families and communities feel valued, respected and connected.

Through professional learning, tailored advice and ongoing support, ISQ assists schools to:

- build confidence and capability to authentically embed Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives
- develop meaningful partnerships with local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities
- create culturally safe and inclusive environments
- support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students to thrive academically, socially and culturally.

Our First Nations Teaching and Learning Advisor works alongside schools to support strategic planning, curriculum implementation, community engagement, workforce capability development, policy review and school improvement initiatives. Tailored support is available to help schools meet their unique context and priorities while strengthening whole-school approaches to reconciliation, cultural responsiveness and inclusion.

Cultural Responsiveness and Safety Webinar
2 August

This webinar serves as a foundation for ongoing professional reflection and capability development in culturally responsive and culturally safe educational practice.

"There were so many moments that encouraged me to stop and think more deeply about what belonging, connection and engagement look like for our students."

PARTICIPANT FEEDBACK

To learn more, visit the ***Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education*** **Member Hub page or contact TeachingandLearning@isq.qld.edu.au**



AI in Education

ISQ's AI suite of professional learning supports schools to respond to the rapidly evolving opportunities presented by artificial intelligence, while managing emerging risks and responsibilities. Aligned with ISQ's commitment to innovation and future-focused education, professional learning helps school leaders and educators build capability in AI strategy, governance, policy, teaching and learning, assessment design, compliance and responsible implementation to support improved outcomes for students and schools.

PROGRAMS

Responsible AI Framework Project

The Responsible AI Framework Project guides schools in implementing a school-wide approach to AI encompassing strategy, policy design, compliance and professional learning.

KEY EVENTS

Adventures in AI webinar series	16 February, 23 March, 27 April, 25 May, 20 July, 17 August, 14 September, 19 October
Assessment Design for AI	1 March
AI PowerED – AI in Education Summit	22 April
AI and Learning Design	23 April
AI Governance, Policy and Risk	26 May
Approaches to AI in Primary	22 July
AI for Child Safety and Wellbeing	6 October

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To learn more, contact office@isq.qld.edu.au

Boarding

Thirty-six Queensland independent schools provide boarding to nearly 4,000 students. ISQ works to support our boarding schools and families through dedicated professional learning that builds knowledge, confidence and practical capability across the regulatory, operational and wellbeing aspects of boarding. Opportunities support schools to understand NSSAB accreditation requirements, while also covering student wellbeing and safeguarding, family engagement, pastoral care, staff capability, risk management and contemporary practices in boarding.

PROGRAMS

Wellbeing Community of Practice

Connecting, Reflecting On and Strengthening School Wellbeing Approaches

This year-long online community of practice is designed for school leaders and wellbeing practitioners. Through four facilitated sessions across the year, participants connect with peers, share effective practices, reflect on challenges and strengthen whole-school approaches to student and staff wellbeing.

COP Term 1	16 March
COP Term 2	3 June
COP Term 3	9 September
COP Term 4	10 November

> "... Our longstanding partnership with ISQ has empowered our staff through professional learning, guidance and support, helping us ensure every boarder experiences a safe, inclusive and caring home away from home."
>
> **PARTICIPANT FEEDBACK**

KEY EVENTS

Be You	
– Critical Incident Briefing for Leadership	Term 1 – 9 February Term 2 –29 July
– Postvention Planning workshop for boarding schools	Date TBC
Boarding Forum	15 February
Building Connections with Boarding Families	17 March

Queensland Independent School Boarding Network (QISBN)

The QISBN provides a collaborative forum for independent boarding schools to connect, share practice, and contribute to sector wide discussion and advocacy on boarding related matters.

QISBN Meetings	3 May, 26 July, 1 October

To learn more, contact office@isq.qld.edu.au

Career Stages

ISQ supports teachers and school leaders at every stage of their career through blended professional learning, mentoring, certification and eLearning. Programs strengthen teaching and leadership practice, support professional recognition and registration, build professional networks and prepare educators to progress from beginning teacher through middle leadership to principalship.

e-LEARNING

- Beginning Teachers
- Becoming a Mentor: Nurturing the Potential of Others
- Evidencing Highly Accomplished and Lead Practice

PROGRAMS

Beginning Teachers

This year-long blended program supports teachers in their first three years of teaching, as well as those with permission to teach status. Through in-person workshops, online sessions and mentoring, participants will strengthen effective teaching practice, build professional networks and work towards full teacher registration.

Highly Accomplished and Lead Teacher Certification and Renewal (HALT)

The Highly Accomplished and Lead Teacher (HALT) Certification and Renewal Program supports eligible teachers seeking national recognition against the Australian Professional Standards for Teachers. As an authorised certification authority, ISQ assesses applicants through evidence portfolios, classroom observations and stakeholder feedback.

Middle Leaders

This semester-long blended program is designed for current and aspiring middle leaders, including heads of curriculum, sub-school leaders and HALTs. Through face-to-face workshops, webinars and optional mentoring, participants build practical leadership capability, strengthen professional collaboration and enhance their capacity to lead teaching, learning and school improvement.

Aspiring Principals — NEW DESIGN

This year-long blended delivery program is designed for experienced school leaders preparing for principalship. Through hybrid workshops, a two-day residential, webinars, online connection and practical application, participants will strengthen the knowledge, leadership capabilities and professional networks required to lead contemporary independent schools.

New Principals — NEW DESIGN

This 10-month blended program supports first-time principals and those new to Queensland's independent school sector. Through personalised support, professional learning and a residential experience, participants strengthen leadership capability, practical judgement and professional connections during the transition to principalship.

6R's Leadership Program for Experienced Principals — NEW

Developed by Dr Stephen Brown in consultation with current school principals, this program provides experienced principals with structured opportunities to reflect, renew and learn with peers at a similar stage of leadership. It recognises the complexity, volatility and uncertainty of contemporary school leadership and provides dedicated time to strengthen professional practice, wellbeing and long-term sustainability in the role.

To learn more, contact
educationservices@isq.qld.edu.au

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Child Safeguarding

ISQ supports member schools to enhance their safeguarding capability through high-quality professional learning, expert-led events and tailored training designed to support effective and sustainable child safe practices across all aspects of school life. Creating and maintaining child safe school communities requires more than compliance. It requires strong leadership, informed governance, capable staff and a culture that places the safety, wellbeing and participation of children and young people at the centre of decision making. It also requires schools to create culturally safe environments where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students experience respect, belonging, positive cultural identity and meaningful recognition of their histories, cultures and communities. The Child Safe Standards provide a framework for schools to strengthen their safeguarding culture, systems and practices through continuous improvement.

PROGRAMS

Berry Street Education Model

NEW

This two-part, in-person program supports educators and school leaders to apply the Berry Street Education Model to create safe, supportive and engaging learning environments for students through trauma-aware practice.

Part 1: 16–17 August
Part 2: 1–2 November

KEY EVENTS

Conducting Reportable Conduct Investigations	5 February, 15 April
Reportable Conduct in Practice: Insights and Lessons	Date TBC
Interviewing Children in Reportable Conduct Matters	10 February, 14 April
Protective Pathways – Empowering Adults, Protecting Students webinar	Date TBC
International Perspectives on Safeguarding webinar series	4 March, 29 April, 26 August, 28 October
Professional Boundaries for Safe School Cultures	8 March, 16 April
Heart of Learning: Respectful Relationships, Student Wellbeing and Safeguarding Conference	14–15 June
Cultural Responsiveness and Safety webinar	2 August
True Traffic Lights Course – Harmful Sexualised Behaviours	30 August
AI for Child Safety and Wellbeing	6 October
Safeguarding Forum	7 October

e-LEARNING

Child Protection for:
– Teachers
– Principals and Board Members
– Non-Teaching Staff
Child Safe Standards: An Introduction
Domestic and Family Violence

To learn more, visit the *Safeguarding* Member Hub page or contact office@isq.qld.edu.au



Schools Marketing & Communications Networking event

Communications & Media

ISQ supports schools to strengthen their marketing and communications capability through practical professional learning designed for those responsible for engaging communities, promoting their school and managing its reputation. Activities cover contemporary marketing and communications practice, alongside media training to help school leaders and staff communicate clearly and confidently in media situations.

KEY EVENTS

Schools Marketing & Communications Networking Event	14 April, 8 October
Practical Training in Media Issues and Crisis Management	4 February, 12 August, 27 October

e-LEARNING

Effective Media Management

To learn more, visit the *Crisis Communications and Media* Member Hub page or contact media@isq.qld.edu.au

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Photo courtesy of Caboolture Montessori School

Early Childhood Education & Care

ISQ supports member schools to strengthen leadership and capability across education and care services, including kindergarten, long day care and outside school hours care. Professional learning, events and networks provide opportunities to build knowledge, strengthen practice, navigate sector change and support high-quality outcomes for children and families.

KEY EVENTS

Early Childhood Sector Updates	4 February, 23 April, 16 June, 1 September
Early Childhood Research and Practice Series	24 February, 7 June, 25 August
Leading Early Childhood Operations	8 March, 30 July
Early Childhood Forum	6 May
Lead with Intention Masterclass	Date TBC
Governance in Early Childhood	17 May, 18 October
The Whole Child: Transitions from Kindergarten to School	6 August

To learn more, visit the *Early Childhood & Kindergarten* Member Hub page or contact kindy@isq.qld.edu.au

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Employee Relations

ISQ Employee Relations provides comprehensive, sector-aligned advice and support to authorised member school leaders across all areas of employee relations, including enterprise bargaining, Awards and Enterprise Agreements, employment contracts, employee performance and conduct matters, performance management, misconduct and disciplinary processes, restructures, Fair Work Commission proceedings, and complex workplace issues. Our service aims to help schools meet their workplace obligations while fostering respectful, inclusive, and culturally safe workplaces. Where a matter requires dedicated strategic, operational or specialist support beyond core advisory services, ISQ may recommend a fee-for-service engagement following an initial triage and assessment.

PROGRAMS

Enterprise Bargaining Readiness Program: Prepare with Confidence. Negotiate with Clarity

NEW

Enterprise bargaining is a significant workforce, financial and governance responsibility for independent schools. This Program held across two seperate days 24 February and 13 May provides Board Chairs, Principals, HR leaders, Business Managers and senior executives with a practical, end-to-end framework based on ISQ's seven-stage Enterprise Agreement Lifecycle, supporting schools through preparation, bargaining, agreement development, approval, implementation and ongoing partnership. Participants will build the confidence to manage risk, meet legislative obligations, align bargaining outcomes with organisational priorities, and use enterprise bargaining as a strategic tool to support workforce attraction, retention, inclusion, cultural safety and long-term workforce sustainability.

Term 1	24 February
Term 2	13 May

Employee Relations Advisory Clinics Program

NEW

This year-long blended program is designed for school leaders and HR professionals. Through quarterly webinars and advisory workshops, participants build confidence in managing employee relations issues, including performance and conduct, workplace conflict, psychosocial safety, wellbeing and compliance, while strengthening workplace capability and reducing organisational risk.

Performance Matters: Practical Strategies for Managing Conduct and Performance	24 March
Managing Workplace Conflict and Disputes with Confidence	28 May
Managing Employment Risk: Understanding Unfair Dismissal	27 August
Psychosocial Safety: An Employee Relations Perspective	29 October

KEY EVENTS

Employee Relations and Human Resources Forum	9–10 June

To learn more, visit the *Employee Relations* Member Hub page or contact er@isq.qld.edu.au

Governance

ISQ is committed to supporting member schools to strengthen their governance capability through high-quality professional learning, events and bespoke training tailored to the needs of independent schools. Ongoing governance training supports school boards to effectively fulfil their responsibilities as stewards of their schools, while modelling the culture of continuous learning they seek to foster within their school communities.

PROGRAMS

ISQ School Governance Course

The ISQ Governance Program is one of ISQ's flagship professional learning programs, developed specifically for the independent school context. It provides relevant, contemporary and engaging governance training for members of governing bodies and senior executive teams of Queensland independent schools. Comprising **12 individual modules** delivered live, the program is designed to strengthen participants' understanding of their governance roles and obligations and build their confidence to contribute effectively as school governors. For senior executives, the program provides a comprehensive understanding of good governance, the respective roles and responsibilities of governance and management, and how executive leaders can effectively support the governing body and governance processes.

KEY EVENTS

New Director Induction	Date TBC
Governance Breakfast	
– Sunshine Coast	29 April
– Rockhampton	13 May
Governance in Early Childhood	17 May, 18 October
Governance Forum	4 June

e-LEARNING

- Governance Finance Course
  - – The Cash Flow Statement
  - – The Balance Sheet
  - – The Income & Expenditure Statement
  - – Ratio Analysis
- Governance Induction Course
  - – Governance Policies and Processes
  - – Governance Roles and Responsibilities
  - – Governance – An Independent School Context

> "... You clearly get what schools and Boards are grappling with; your introduction showed that. I am very happy to know that there will be future Forums where we can check in with what is happening and unpack all the complexities...."
>
> **PARTICIPANT FEEDBACK**

To learn more, visit the *Governance* Member Hub page or contact office@isq.qld.edu.au

Inclusive Education

ISQ supports schools to ensure all students can access, participate in and benefit from meaningful learning opportunities. This involves embedding inclusive practices within everyday teaching, so learning is accessible to all students, with reasonable adjustments provided where there is a functional impact to remove or reduce barriers to participation and achievement.

PROGRAMS

Berry Street Education Model

NEW

This two-part, in-person program supports educators and school leaders to apply the Berry Street Education Model to create safe, supportive and engaging learning environments for students through trauma-aware practice.

Part 1: 16–17 August
Part 2: 1–2 November

High Potential and Gifted Learners Community of Practice

NEW

This community of practice is designed for educators and school leaders who want to strengthen their understanding of high-potential and gifted learners and build confidence in identifying and responding to their needs. Across the year, participants will have opportunities to explore key concepts in high potential and gifted education, including how giftedness may present across different domains, how to identify learners who may be overlooked or underrepresented, and how to design learning environments that provide appropriate challenge, support, and opportunities for growth.

Strengthening Adolescent Literacy through a Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS)

NEW

This year-long hybrid program will build the collective capacity of school teams to lead a coordinated approach to addressing persistent literacy challenges. Drawing on evidence-informed and culturally responsive practices, the program recognises that effective literacy support is strengthened when teaching is responsive to students' language, identity, culture, experiences, relationships and ways of communicating.

EAL/D Connect: Strengthening Practice

NEW

This four-webinar program is designed for teachers and school leaders seeking to strengthen their understanding of EAL/D learners and build confidence in responding to their diverse linguistic, cultural and educational backgrounds. The program recognises the breadth of EAL/D learners, including international, migrant and refugee learners, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander learners who speak traditional languages, creoles or Aboriginal English and are learning Standard Australian English as an additional language or dialect. Across the year, participants will build their capacity to understand diverse language-learning pathways, recognise and build on learners' existing linguistic and cultural strengths, identify and explicitly teach the language demands of the curriculum, and use purposeful scaffolding and assessment to support access and participation. Practical resources, professional discussion and opportunities to trial and reflect on changes in practice will support participants to strengthen culturally and linguistically responsive practice and build consistent and sustainable approaches to EAL/D across their school.

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT ISQ PROFESSIONAL LEARNING EVENTS
connectandlearn.isq.qld.edu.au/login



KEY EVENTS

Students with Disability & Specific Needs	
– Starting Strong in Inclusive Education Leadership	4 March
– Inclusive Education Webinar series	
• Term 1 – Inclusive Practices & Functional Impact	17 March
• Term 2 – Positive Behaviour by Design	9 June
• Term 3 – Complex Case Collaboration	26 August
• Term 4 – Planning for Transitions	13 October
– Inclusive & Effective Teaching Practice Conference	31 August–1 September
English as an Additional Language or Dialect (EAL/D)	
– Identifying, Assessing and Supporting EAL/D Learners Using the NLLIA ESL Bandscales	16 –17 February
– EAL/D Bandscales Moderation: Strengthening Consistency in Professional Judgements	20 October
Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD)	
– Personalised Planning and NCCD: Building a Year-Long School Action Plan workshop	5 March
– Strengthening NCCD Decision-Making Through Training and Moderation	
• Brisbane	22 March
• Online	16 April
• Gold Coast and Sunshine Coast	Date TBC
– Building Confidence in NCCD Moderation	10 May (AM or PM session)
– Enhancing NCCD Moderation Across Regional Schools	10 June
• Gold Coast and Sunshine Coast	Date TBC
• Regional Cross Sector (ISQ & CEQL) Moderation	Date TBC

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PROFESSIONAL LEARNING EVENTS
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e-LEARNING

- Disability Standards for Education
- Providing Evidence-Based Adjustments for Students with Additional Needs (Including Disability) Webinar
- An Introduction to Inclusive Language Webinar
- Students with Disability and Diverse Learning Needs Support Services Webinar
- EAL/D
  - – Introduction to English as a Second Language
  - – Introduction to the NLLIA Bandscales
  - – Using the ESL Bandscales Levels 1–3
  - – Using the ESL Bandscales Levels 4–7
- For Teacher Aides
  - – Supporting Students with Disability and Learning Difficulties course
  - – Managing Student Behaviour and Supporting Self-Management course
  - – Supporting Literacy and Numeracy Development course
- Working with Teacher Aides
  - – Effective Use of Teacher Aides - Considerations for School Leaders course
  - – Planning for the Effective Use of Teaching Assistants Webinar
  - – Teaching Assistants Professional Standards for Leaders Webinar

To learn more, visit the *Inclusive Education* Member Hub page or contact inclusiveeducation@isq.qld.edu.au

Stay Informed

Keep up to date with the ISQ news, events and opportunities most relevant to you. Update your email preferences today.

SUBSCRIBE NOW



International Networking Day

International Education

Queensland independent schools are recognised leaders in international education. ISQ works with member schools to strengthen their capability in international education through professional learning, briefings and events focused on the regulatory, operational and strategic aspects of delivering quality international education programs. Opportunities cover areas including CRICOS and regulatory compliance, students on visas, student recruitment, internationalisation and global citizenship, school-sector transnational education, and the development of sister school, exchange and other international education programs.

KEY EVENTS

International Education Orientation Day	11 March
International Education Networking Days	12 March, 22 October
International Education Conference	22–23 July

e-LEARNING

Finding Your Way Around ESOS & CRICOS

> "So grateful to ISQ for providing these PDs. It's an excellent opportunity to learn, share insights and connect with colleagues in international education."
>
> **PARTICIPANT FEEDBACK**

To learn more, visit the *International Education* Member Hub page or contact office@isq.qld.edu.au

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Leadership

ISQ supports current and aspiring school leaders to build the confidence, capability and practical skills required to lead people, teams and school improvement. Through flexible programs, residential experiences, network events and eLearning, leaders at every career stage can strengthen their leadership practice, expand professional networks and prepare for greater responsibility.

Leadership Network Events

Connect with school leaders and explore contemporary leadership practices through ISQ's network events, which feature guest speakers and opportunities for professional conversation, shared learning and connection. Event details and dates will be announced as they are confirmed.

PROGRAMS

Leadership Essentials

This semester-long program is designed for school leaders, both teaching and non-teaching, who are responsible for leading people, driving initiatives and shaping team culture and performance. Delivered in partnership with Thriving Minds, the program helps participants build the confidence, capability and presence of impactful leaders. An accelerated three-day residential option is also available.

Middle Leaders

This semester-long blended program is designed for current and aspiring middle leaders, including heads of curriculum, sub-school leaders and HALTs. Through face-to-face workshops, webinars and optional mentoring, participants build practical leadership capability, strengthen professional collaboration and enhance their capacity to lead teaching, learning and school improvement.

Aspiring Principals

NEW DESIGN

This year-long blended delivery program is designed for experienced school leaders preparing for principalship. Through hybrid workshops, a two-day residential, webinars, online connection and practical application, participants will strengthen the knowledge, leadership capabilities and professional networks required to lead contemporary independent schools.

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6R's Leadership for Experienced Principals

NEW

Developed by Dr Stephen Brown in consultation with current school principals, this program provides experienced principals with structured opportunities to reflect, renew and learn with peers at a similar stage of leadership. It recognises the complexity, volatility and uncertainty of contemporary school leadership and provides dedicated time to strengthen professional practice, wellbeing and long-term sustainability in the role.

KEY EVENTS

Elevated Conversations with Dr Simon Breakspear: Making Collaboration Time Count	12 May

e-LEARNING

Becoming a Mentor: Nurturing the Potential of Others

Conflict Resolution Tips and Techniques

Effective Media Management

Effective Use of Teacher Aides – Considerations for School Leaders

How to Have a Difficult Conversation

Teaching Assistants Professional Standards for Leaders Webinar

To learn more, visit the *Leadership* Member Hub page or contact educationservices@isq.qld.edu.au

Operations

ISQ supports member schools to enhance effective school management, operations and regulatory compliance through a comprehensive range of professional learning opportunities. Through programs, forums, briefings and regional engagement, ISQ equips school leaders and operational staff with the knowledge and practical insights they need to navigate the evolving regulatory and operational landscape with confidence.

PROGRAMS

Executive Management Suite

The ISQ Executive Management Suite is designed to support current and emerging school executives to develop the knowledge and skills required to effectively navigate the operational, governance and regulatory responsibilities of independent schools. Developed specifically for the Queensland independent school context, the program builds capability across key areas including strategy, risk, compliance, financial management, governance and school operations.

HR Discussion Group

Connect with HR professionals from independent schools across Queensland through ISQ's HR Discussion Group. Meeting via Teams for one hour each term, this forum provides a valuable opportunity to share ideas, exchange knowledge, discuss common challenges and learn from peers, while building a supportive professional network across the sector.

View dates and register via Connect&Learn.

e-LEARNING

School Business Manager Introduction

To learn more, visit the *School Operations & Compliance* Member Hub page or contact office@isq.qld.edu.au

KEY EVENTS

Australian Early Development Census (AEDC)	
– Preparing for the AEDC Collection	23 March
– Interpreting and Using AEDC Data	13 October
Business Managers	
– New Business Managers Induction	1–2 February
– Business Managers Briefing	27 May, 11 November
– Business Managers Forum	10 September
Compliance Review Program	
– NSSAB Compliance Review Program workshop	16 February
Executive Assistants (EAs)	
– EA Connect Conference	14–16 March
– EA Connect Professional Development Day	6 August
ICT Managers	
–School Technology Forum	Date TBC
Regional Tour	
– Rockhampton/Gladstone Region	27–29 April
• School Leaders workshop in Rockhampton	28 April
– Sunshine Coast Region	12–13 May
• School Leaders workshop on the Sunshine Coast	12 May

Parent Engagement

Parents are arguably one of the most important stakeholder groups in any school community. Yet for many school leaders, parents can also be one of the most challenging. A difficult conversation. A complaint. A demanding email. The influence of a small but vocal minority. These experiences can consume considerable time and energy, and over time, they can shape perceptions of the broader parent community. The danger is allowing the loudest voices to define how we view all parents.

PROGRAMS

Run in partnership with Queensland Independent Schools Parents Network, our Parent Engagement programs and events support independent schools to strengthen family-school relationships to enhance student learning, wellbeing and belonging. Through strategic advice, consultancy, professional learning, resources and networks, we help schools engage meaningfully with families and build thriving school communities.

Mastering Parent Engagement Program

Stop talking about parent engagement and start bringing it to life in your school! This year-long, scaffolded program supports school teams to strengthen the way they engage with parents and caregivers as valued contributors to student learning, wellbeing and success. Drawing on national and international research and supported by ongoing coaching from a dedicated parent engagement specialist, schools explore contemporary family engagement practices, reflect on their current approach, and implement meaningful actions that build trust, strengthen connections and foster thriving school communities. Features two in-person Masterclassess (February and July) in Brisbane or Rockhampton as well as individual school check-ins and coaching every term.

Location 1: Brisbane cohort
Location 2: Regional Queensland cohort (operating out of Rockhampton)

Mastering Parent Engagement PLUS

Mastering Parent Engagement Plus is exclusively available to schools that have completed the Mastering Parent Engagement program. Building on the foundations established through the program, MPE+ provides ongoing team coaching, advanced professional learning and practical support to help schools embed and sustain family engagement practices. School teams deepen their understanding, strengthen leadership capability and continue implementing strategies that foster authentic engagement with families and contribute to thriving school communities.

Mastering Parent Engagement Collective

Mastering Parent Engagement Collective is a Community of Practice for schools that have completed Mastering Parent Engagement and Mastering Parent Engagement Plus. Through regular facilitated connections, collaboration with peers, access to the latest research and ongoing professional learning opportunities, the Collective supports school teams to sustain momentum, deepen their family engagement practice, and continue innovating alongside like-minded colleagues from across the independent sector.

> "Often we are confronted by thoughts of this being too large; however small practical adjustments can have a profound impact."
>
> **MASTERING PARENT ENGAGEMENT GRADUATE**

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT ISQ PROFESSIONAL LEARNING EVENTS
connectandlearn.isq.qld.edu.au/login



School Refusal 2026 event

KEY EVENTS

Understanding Today's Families webinar	11 March
Reaching Families Effectively	15 March
Building Connections with Boarding Families	17 March
Conflict to Collaboration: Before Issues Escalate	16 April
The Art of a Good Conversation	28 April, 9 September
Front of House: Every Interaction with Families Matters	6 May
Reimagining Parent Bodies	27 May
Conflict to Collaboration: When Perspectives Collide	3 June
Engaging Alumni as Partners in School Community	22 July
Conflict to Collaboration: Navigating High-Stakes Conversations	26 August

e-LEARNING

Module 1: A Whole School Approach to Parent Engagement

Module 2: Communication and Partnership

To learn more, visit the *Parent Engagement* Member Hub page or contact info@parentsnetwork.qld.edu.au

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT ISQ PROFESSIONAL LEARNING EVENTS
connectandlearn.isq.qld.edu.au/login

Student Behaviour, Respectful Relationships and Classroom Management

ISQ supports schools to create safe, supportive and inclusive learning environments that strengthen student wellbeing, engagement and learning. Through evidence-informed programs, events and eLearning, school teams build capability in effective classroom management, positive behaviour support, respectful relationships education, trauma-aware practice, bullying prevention and child safeguarding.

PROGRAMS

Berry Street Education Model

NEW

This two-part, in-person program supports educators and school leaders to apply the Berry Street Education Model to strengthen create safe, supportive and engaging learning environments for students through trauma-aware practice.

Part 1: 16–17 August
Part 2: 1–2 November

Leading a Whole-School Approach to Safe, Supportive and Learning-Focused Behaviour

NEW

Create safe, supportive, and learning-focused environments through a consistent, evidence-informed approach to behaviour that strengthens Tier 1 practice. Beginning with a practical workshop, school teams will develop context-specific, whole-school approaches to behaviour that align leadership priorities with classroom practice. Ongoing support enables schools to implement consistent preventative and responsive practices and embed positive behaviour support across learning environments.

Respectful Relationships Education: Whole-School Review and Action Planning with Curtin University

This project is designed to support schools in implementing a best-practice, evidence-based, whole-school approach to respectful relationships education. With the expertise of Curtin University, your school will embark on a journey through audit, planning and ongoing support to create safer, more respectful environments for all students.

Stay Informed

Keep up to date with the ISQ news, events and opportunities most relevant to you. Update your email preferences today.

SUBSCRIBE NOW

KEY EVENTS

Leading a Whole School Approach to Safe, Supportive and Learning Focused Behaviour	
– Primary School Masterclass	3 February
– Secondary School Masterclass	14 July
Protective Pathways – Empowering Adults, Protecting Students	Date TBC
International Perspectives on Safeguarding	4 March, 29 April, 26 August, 28 October
Preventing and Responding to Bullying: From Guidance to Practice	14 April
Effective Small-Group Instruction Techniques for Teacher Aides	24 May
Evolve Therapeutic Services webinars	
– Understanding Behaviour Through the Brain House Metaphor	22 July
– Harmful Sexual Behaviour: Support and Supervision Planning	21 October
Supporting Positive Behaviour and Student Engagement for Teacher Aides	25 August
True Traffic Lights – Harmful Sexualised Behaviours	30 August
Safeguarding Forum	7 October
The Foundations for Learning: Safety, Belonging and Engagement	26 October

e-LEARNING

Student Behaviour
– Introduction to Behaviour Support course
– An Introduction to Behaviour webinar
– An Introduction to Behaviour Support Plans webinar
Respectful Relationships Education
– Planning Your Year Ahead in Consent and Respectful Relationships Education webinar
– Bringing Your School's Faith and Values into CRRE
– Strengthening Consent and Respectful Relationships Education webinar
– True, inclusive whole of school CRRE practices webinar

To learn more contact
inclusiveeducation@isq.qld.edu.au



Teaching and Learning

ISQ supports schools to strengthen evidence-informed teaching, curriculum leadership and whole-school pedagogical practice. Through programs, events and eLearning, educators build capability in the science of learning, explicit instruction, responsive teaching, curriculum planning, mathematics and culturally and linguistically responsive practice.

PROGRAMS

NEW

Effective Teaching: Sustaining and Strengthening a Whole-School Approach

This program supports instructional leaders that are already implementing evidence-informed pedagogical practices in their schools. Through professional development and coaching provided by Bronwyn Ryrie-Jones and ISQ advisors, participants strengthen the quality and consistency of these practices.

Effective Teaching: Implementing a Whole-School Approach

This program supports teams from primary, secondary, special and special assistance schools to develop a high-impact pedagogical model and implementation plan. Through in-person or online professional learning and ongoing tailored support, participants strengthen effective teaching practices across their school.

Mathematics

This program builds participants' understanding of the science of learning and effective teaching through responsive teaching using explicit instruction, retrieval practice and formative assessment. Through professional learning and implementation support, schools strengthen teaching practices and student learning.

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT ISQ PROFESSIONAL LEARNING EVENTS
connectandlearn.isq.qld.edu.au/login

KEY EVENTS

Curriculum Leadership Essentials for Queensland Independent Schools	17 February
Primary Math Masterclass: Cognitive Science in Practice	1 March
Secondary Math Masterclass: Cognitive Science in Practice	2 March
Refining Unit Plans to Strengthen Teaching and Learning	
– For Experienced Prep–Year 2 Teachers	31 May
– For Experienced Years 3–6 Teachers	1 June
– For Experienced Years 7–10 Teachers	2 June
– For Experienced Prep to Year 10 Teachers – Rockhampton	5 August
– For Experienced Prep to Year 10 Teachers – Cairns	9 September
Effective Small-Group Instruction Techniques for Teacher Aides	24 May
From Knowledge-Rich Foundations to Critical Thinking and Dialogic Learning	26 July
Metacognition in Secondary Science: Better thinking, Better Learning	9 August
Explicit Instruction in Secondary English Masterclass	23 August
Supporting Positive Behaviour and Student Engagement for Teacher Aides	25 August
Inclusive & Effective Teaching Practice Conference	31 August – 1 September
What Good Maths Teaching Looks Like	3 September
Teaching and Learning Showcase	4 November
Domestic Study Tour	Date TBC
Harmonise & Innovate: Professional Development for Music Educators	Date TBC
Regional tour	
– Rockhampton/Gladstone Region	27–29 April
• School Leaders Workshop – Rockhampton	28 April
– Sunshine Coast Region	12–13 May
• School Leaders Workshop – Sunshine Coast	12 May

e-LEARNING

- Curriculum Leaders – Difficult Conversations
- Developing Maths Fluency
- Using the Science of Learning to Increase Student Engagement in Learning

To learn more, visit the *Curriculum, Teaching & Learning* Member Hub page or contact TeachingandLearning@isq.qld.edu.au

Vocational Education and Training (VET)

Vocational Education and Training supports independent schools to provide diverse learning pathways that prepare students for further study, apprenticeships, traineeships and employment.

PROGRAMS

New to VET in Schools Mentoring Program

Designed for practitioners new to vocational education and training (VET) responsibilities, this program provides a practical introduction to the Queensland VET landscape, vocational pathways, funding arrangements and school-based processes. Through four facilitated online workshops, participants build the knowledge, confidence and professional networks needed to effectively coordinate and support VET programs within their school.

KEY EVENTS

VET Leaders Forum: Leading the Future of Vocational Education and Pathways	14 May
School RTO Advanced Practitioners Workshop: Strengthening Governance, Assessment and Inclusive Practice	23 July

e-LEARNING

- Work Experience
- Recorded Webinars
  - – Engaging with External RTOs (VET Schools & School RTOs)
  - – Understanding Key Components of the Standards for RTOs 2025 (School RTOs):
    - • Part 1: Being a Teacher/Trainer of VET in Schools
    - • Part 2: Supporting School Students through Vocational Education and Training Programs
    - • Part 3: Engaging with Key Representatives to Inform Industry Relevance
    - • Part 4: Conducting Evidence-based Assessment and Validation Practices
    - • Part 5: Elevating Effective School RTO Governance and Management Operations

To learn more, visit the *VET* and *Work Experience* Member Hub page or contact vet@isq.qld.edu.au

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT ISQ PROFESSIONAL LEARNING EVENTS
connectandlearn.isq.qld.edu.au/login



Wellbeing and Trauma Aware Practice

ISQ supports schools to strengthen student and staff wellbeing through evidence-informed, trauma-aware practice and whole-school approaches. These approaches are shown to support positive workplaces for staff and create the conditions for all students to learn. Professional learning opportunities build educators' capability to foster safety, belonging, engagement and positive mental health across online and school environments.

PROGRAMS

Berry Street Education Model

This two-part, in-person program supports educators and school leaders to apply the Berry Street Education Model to create safe, supportive and engaging learning environments for students through trauma-aware practice.

Part 1: 16–17 August
Part 2: 1–2 November

To learn more, visit the *Wellbeing* Member Hub page or contact inclusiveeducation@isq.qld.edu.au

Wellbeing Community of Practice

Connecting, Reflecting On and Strengthening School Wellbeing Approaches

This year-long online community of practice is designed for school leaders and wellbeing practitioners. Through four facilitated sessions across the year, participants connect with peers, share effective practices, reflect on challenges and strengthen whole-school approaches to student and staff wellbeing.

Term 1: 16 March
Term 2: 3 June
Term 3: 9 September
Term 4: 10 November

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT ISQ PROFESSIONAL LEARNING EVENTS
connectandlearn.isq.qld.edu.au/login

KEY EVENTS

Evolve Therapeutic Services webinars	
– Vicarious Trauma: Surviving, Thriving and Reviving	18 February
– An Introduction to Developmental Trauma	11 March
– Introduction to Trauma Part 1	27 May
– Introduction to Trauma Part 2	2 June
International Perspectives on Safeguarding webinar series	4 March, 29 April, 26 August, 28 October
Connected Classrooms: Strengthening Engagement and Wellbeing	
– Brisbane Hybrid	26 April
– Toowoomba	5 May
– Sunshine Coast	19 May
– Rockhampton	3 June
Heart of Learning: Respectful Relationships, Student Wellbeing and Safeguarding Conference	14–15 June
Supporting School Engagement: Responding to School Refusal and Anxiety	16 July
Connected Classrooms for Special Assistance Schools: Strengthening Engagement and Wellbeing	28 July
Safeguarding Forum	7 October
Be You	
– Critical Incident Leadership Briefing	9 February, 29 July
– Postvention Planning workshop for boarding schools	Date TBC
– Professional Learning Day for Primary Schools	13 May
– Postvention Planning Workshop and Networking Lunch	20 May

e-LEARNING

- 3 Desk Stretches to Instantly Improve Your Day
- Conflict Resolution Tips and Techniques
- Domestic and Family Violence
- Drug and Alcohol webinar series
  - – Dovetail
  - – OurFutures – Addressing the Rising Challenges of Vaping, Alcohol and Other Drug Use Among High School Students
  - – Blurred Minds - Lessons from the Frontline: What Works in Teen Substance Use Prevention
- How to Have a Difficult Conversation


TIQ Careers and Recruitment Expo

Workforce Innovation

Teach Independent Queensland (TIQ) supports member schools to attract and retain quality staff by raising the profile of Queensland's independent school sector and promoting schools as employers of choice. Through its Recruitment Expo, Teach Independent Queensland connects schools with prospective candidates and showcases the diverse career opportunities available across the sector.

KEY EVENT

Teach Independent Queensland Recruitment and Careers Expo		**2 September**

NOTE: Registration is by school, rather than by individual participant.

To learn more, contact office@isq.qld.edu.au

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT ISQ PROFESSIONAL LEARNING EVENTS
connectandlearn.isq.qld.edu.au/login



Queensland Independent Schools SUMMIT

19–20 August 2027
Sunshine Coast Convention Centre (Novotel Sunshine Coast Resort)

Set against the stunning backdrop of the Sunshine Coast, QISS 2027 brings together education leaders, innovators and changemakers to explore the ideas, challenges and opportunities shaping the future of schooling.

With thought-provoking keynote speakers, engaging panel discussions and valuable networking opportunities, you'll leave energised, informed and equipped with new strategies to lead with confidence.

WHY ATTEND

* Hear from renowned education and industry leaders
* Explore emerging trends shaping the future of schools
* Gain practical ideas you can implement immediately
* Connect with peers, partners and decision-makers from across the sector
* Step away from the day-to-day and invest in your leadership

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

Executive Leaders • Board Representatives • Principals • Business Managers • ICT Managers • Curriculum & Middle Leaders • PR & Marketing Managers

BETTER TOGETHER

We encourage school leadership teams to attend as a group to maximise learning and strategic planning opportunities.

SAVE THE DATE

Registration opens 1 March 2027

COVER IMAGE: New Page Marketing presenting at the Schools Marketing Networking event. Image courtesy of Canon Australia.

Independent Schools Queensland
choice & diversity

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