

# Media Release

**The Hon Ben Carroll MP**  
Deputy Premier  
Minister for Education  
Minister for Medical Research



Friday, 1 December 2023

## MORE OF VICTORIA'S TOP TEACHERS UPSKILL

Teachers help change lives, and thanks to the Allan Labor Government, more than 400 outstanding Victorian teachers have taken their skills to new levels through the Teaching Excellence Program (TEP).

Across government, Catholic and independent schools 434 high-performing teachers have graduated the 2023 Teaching Excellence Program – a year-long training program for teachers to explore unique ways of making learning meaningful for their students.

Minister for Education Ben Carroll today congratulated the graduates of the professional learning program, an Australian-first, offered through the Victorian Academy of Teaching and Leadership (the Academy).

TEP supports and challenges some of the state's most highly-skilled teachers to deepen their subject knowledge, helping them take innovative teaching approaches back to the classroom and provide insights to their school.

The program is open to teachers with at least three years' teaching experience and involves conferences, subject-specific study days and self-directed research projects to test and apply new and improved skills in their schools.

Supported by subject-specific expert Master Teachers, TEP participants learn from colleagues, share experiences and resources with each other further raising the quality and status of Victoria's teaching workforce.

Once graduated from the program, teachers gain alumni status and can apply for a Teaching Innovation Fellowship awarded through the Academy. The fellowships give teachers an opportunity to design and lead an innovative professional learning project that addresses a problem they experience in the classroom back at their school.

The Labor Government invested \$148.2 million in 2022 to open the Academy's first centre in East Melbourne along with 7 regional centres: Bairnsdale, Ballarat, Bendigo, Geelong, Mildura, Moe and Shepparton —making sure rural and regional teachers can access high-quality, evidence-informed professional learning close to their schools.

Teachers are encouraged to visit [academy.vic.gov.au/professional-learning/teaching-excellence-program](https://academy.vic.gov.au/professional-learning/teaching-excellence-program) to apply or find out more about TEP in 2024.

### Quotes attributable to Minister for Education Ben Carroll

*"We want to ensure every young Victorian gets the best education — that's why we're investing in our teachers and making sure they have access to the best professional learning to deliver excellent education for every student."*

*"TEP is a nation-leading opportunity, giving high-performing teachers an incredible chance to deepen their practice and help transform the learning experience of thousands of students across the state."*

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

*"We are so proud of our TEP graduates, who have inspired each other and grown professionally this year. Their work helps raise the status of the teaching profession and make a real difference in schools across the state."*

**Media contact:** Nelson Barber 0473 163 333 | [nelson.barber@minstaff.vic.gov.au](mailto:nelson.barber@minstaff.vic.gov.au)