

Professor John Hattie appointed AITSL Board Chair

I am honoured and delighted to be appointed Chair of the Board of the Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership.

AITSL has developed world-class standards and resources that are the foundation of truly making a difference to the quality of schooling in Australia. The time is right to increase our efforts in working with education systems as they implement national standards for teachers and principals throughout the country. The Minister has asked, and I thoroughly agree, that a major aim of AITSL now be to work with the profession to find optimal ways to promote esteem for the excellence that is evident in so many of our schools.

My particular focus as Chair of AITSL over the next year will be to take forward the outcomes of the Teacher Education Ministerial Advisory Group, which will report to the Minister later this year. AITSL will play a key role in this time of reform in initial teacher education, and in supporting school leaders to effectively manage more autonomous schools.

As I travel around various countries and witness their education systems, it becomes obvious that we have much of value in Australia. Complacency is our worst enemy if we are to maintain our high-quality schools and teachers. It is critical that we build a national picture of excellence in order to be clear about what needs improving and what needs supporting, and to work with education organisations in all Australian states and territories.

I see this as a major role of AITSL. I am looking forward to leading and working with the AITSL Board into the next phase of implementation of the Standards; enhancing the quality of initial teacher education; and supporting teachers and school leaders to best meet the needs of their students.

Professor John Hattie

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