LA TROBE UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

STATEMENT OF STRATEGIC INTENT

2025 — 2030

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The School of Education at La Trobe University respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the lands our campuses and education work are located on. We recognise that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples hold unique and enduring knowledge and perspectives that inform the past, present and future of education.

We acknowledge the insights of the Yoorrook Justice Commission and commit to addressing inequalities in education, particularly those relating to underrepresentation, cultural safety and curriculum. This work is embedded in our School and in the preparation of teachers. We recognise the vital role of educators in ensuring that the experiences of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students are meaningful, empowering, culturally safe and reflective of First Peoples' culture, history and perspectives.

Wurundjeri
Melbourne (Bundoora and City)

Dja Dja Wurrung
Bendigo

Dhudhuroa/Waywurru
Albury-Wodonga

Latji Latji
Mildura

Yorta Yorta
Shepparton

Gadigal
Sydney

OUR VISION

By 2030, La Trobe will be recognised as Australia's national leader – and among the top 150 universities globally – for teacher education and education innovation. We will be known as the university where world-class research and practice come together to redefine what it means to teach and learn, creating equitable, future-ready classrooms powered by evidence and AI.

OUR MISSION

To transform education through evidence, equity and innovation – preparing educators who are human-led and AI-enhanced, advancing research that drives systemic reform, and shaping classrooms where every learner can thrive.

STATEMENT OF STRATEGIC INTENT

We are leading a once-in-a-generation transformation in teacher education in Australia.

By 2030, education will look fundamentally different – powered by evidence, enhanced by AI, and sustained through deep partnerships with schools and communities.

Our role is clear: harness the power of AI and evidence-informed practice to redefine what it means to teach and learn. We will embed AI insights into teacher preparation, classroom practice and research to personalise learning and improve outcomes at scale. We are shaping a generation of educators who are human-led but AI-enhanced, thriving in a future where equity, innovation and rigour are non-negotiable.

Research excellence is central to this ambition. Through flagship initiatives like the Science of Language and Reading (SOLAR) Lab, Science of Mathematics Education (SOME) Lab, Nexus, Momentum Schools, and a proposed new national education centre, La Trobe will be recognised globally as a leader in education research – producing and translating world-class evidence that sets standards, informs policy, and transforms practice in classrooms and communities.

This is not incremental change – it is a systemic reset. Our ambition will be realised through purposeful investment in people, philanthropy, and partnerships – ensuring that resources match the scale of transformation we are driving.

We invite governments, schools, communities, and partners to join us in shaping an education system that is more equitable, more effective, and powered by the best of human expertise and AI innovation. Equity is at the heart of everything we do: every learner, wherever they start, must have the opportunity to succeed.

CORE VALUES

WE ARE ACCOUNTABLE

WE ARE CONNECTED

WE ARE INNOVATIVE

WE CARE

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

LEAD

Lead the transformation of teaching and learning to lift outcomes across Australia and the world

EXPAND

Expand equitable access to world-class education through innovation and strategic partnerships

ELEVATE

Elevate the education workforce of the future

PRIORITY 1:

LEAD THE TRANSFORMATION OF TEACHING AND LEARNING TO LIFT OUTCOMES ACROSS AUSTRALIA AND THE WORLD

One-third of Australian students are not meeting literacy and numeracy benchmarks, with lifelong consequences for employment, health and wellbeing. The impact is felt most sharply by students from low socio-economic, regional, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander backgrounds.

La Trobe University's School of Education is leading a national shift toward evidence-informed teacher preparation and classroom practice. Our programs are designed not just to train teachers, but to transform classrooms by closing equity gaps, lifting outcomes, and translating research into practice.

Looking ahead, we are proposing the establishment of a national education centre to bridge research, policy and practice across Australia.

With equity at its core, the national education centre will deliver proven programs, in-school coaching, and an AI-powered digital platform that amplifies human expertise with the precision and reach of technology. It will support all teachers, principals, policymakers and researchers nationwide, with the greatest impact in disadvantaged, regional and Indigenous communities – delivering the change Australia urgently needs.

Flagship initiatives

Nexus

Redefining teacher pathways through employment-based programs in hard-to-staff schools.

Science of Language and Reading (SOLAR) Lab

Equipping more than 12,500 educators with evidence-informed approaches to teaching reading, language and comprehension.

Science of Mathematics Education (SOME) Lab

Australia's first dedicated hub for evidence-informed mathematics education, transforming how mathematics is taught and learned.

Momentum Schools

Partnering with schools to showcase how evidence-informed practices deliver measurable improvements in student learning, while building networks of schools that share knowledge, expertise and success.

PRIORITY 1: KPIs

DRIVE SCHOOL TRANSFORMATIONS

At scale to dramatically improve learning outcomes through:

Establishing a national education centre

Translating research into practice at scale, embedding AI-powered tools to amplify human expertise, and building the infrastructure for lasting impact. Led by La Trobe University, the national education centre will deliver proven programs, in-school coaching, digital platforms, professional networks, and longitudinal data to inform policy, strengthen Initial Teacher Education, and drive measurable improvement in student outcomes.

Expanding our Science of Language and Reading (SOLAR) Lab

Equipping 20,000 educators through our short courses and postgraduate courses in Language and Literacy (Graduate Certificate, Master of Education).

Scaling our new Science of Mathematics Education (SOME) Lab

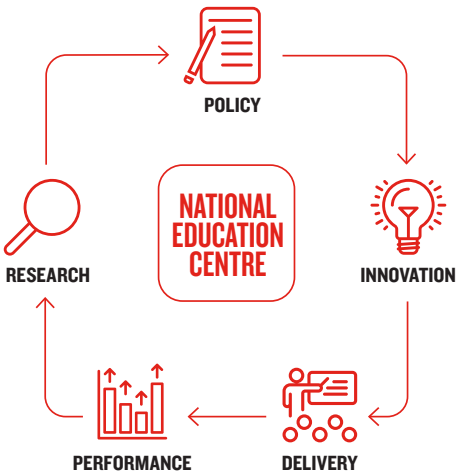
Scale impact of Australia's first dedicated hub for evidence-informed mathematics education, with a target of 3,000 educators engaged by 2030.

Doubling the volume of Momentum Schools

Making our professional learning platform available to teachers across Australia.

By 2030, the proposed national education centre will be recognised as Australia's national engine for evidence-informed teaching

By 2030, La Trobe's SOLAR Lab will be nationally recognised as the leader in evidence-informed literacy



LEAD EDUCATIONAL REFORM

Influence national teacher education standards and policy by embedding evidence-informed practice, with La Trobe cited as a leader in national reviews, frameworks and reforms.

AMPLIFY THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

Be known for our national and international experts who are committed to improving outcomes for all, with influence amplified through strategically timed media, commentary, and thought leadership pieces that shape national debate.

EXPAND REPUTATION

By 2030, we will secure a position in the world's top 150 universities for education and be internationally recognised as the leader in teacher education reform and innovation.

By 2030 we will support school transformations at scale to dramatically improve learning outcomes

PRIORITY 2:

EXPAND EQUITABLE ACCESS TO WORLD-CLASS EDUCATION THROUGH INNOVATION AND STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

Equity and access remain our priority. We will provide multiple entry points into high-quality programs that lead to meaningful careers across education sectors, with a strong commitment to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.

Through regional and metropolitan partnerships, and innovative professional experience models such as Nexus and cohort-based placements, we will expand opportunities across Victoria, New South Wales, and the rest of Australia. This directly advances La Trobe's 'skills through equity' agenda and regional growth strategy – lifting participation among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students, learners in rural and regional communities, and those who are first in their family to study.

Flexible, blended and online delivery enhanced by AI-driven insights into student success will further increase accessibility and support lifelong learning.

PRIORITY 2: KPIs

INCREASE PARTICIPATION

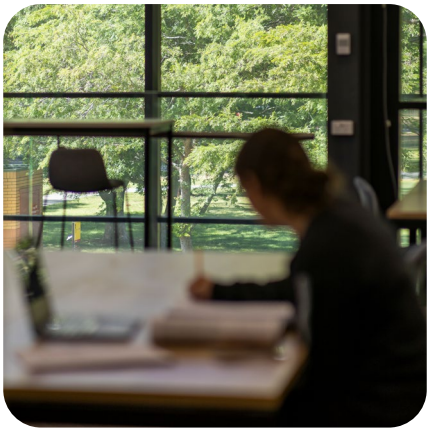
Increase the number of teacher education students from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander backgrounds to 2.5%, as well as students from low socio-economic, regional and rural backgrounds, and those living with disability – advancing La Trobe's 'skills through equity' agenda.

EXPAND NEXUS

Double our employment-based and cohort-style placements to address shortages in disadvantaged and regional communities.

ENHANCE ACCESS AND DELIVERY

Broaden offerings through viable on-campus, hybrid and online courses that appeal to regional learners, ensure an outstanding student experience, and respond to the critical workforce needs of regional communities.



PRIORITY 3:

ELEVATE THE EDUCATION WORKFORCE OF THE FUTURE

Our people are at the heart of our success. We are cultivating a high-performing, agile workforce with strong leadership capability and a culture of diversity, equity and inclusion. Through mentoring, succession planning and purposeful investment, we are developing the next generation of leaders – strengthened by research expertise and impact.

We are redefining professional practice through Professors of Practice, who work concurrently across industry and the University. This embedded model ensures our curriculum evolves with the profession, blending industry-informed courses with emerging technologies so graduates are prepared for a rapidly changing education landscape.

Our programs are grounded in evidence and innovation. La Trobe graduates leave with the skills that schools and systems need now and into the future. From classrooms to policy and leadership, they are industry-preferred professionals who are digitally fluent, culturally safe, and committed to equity and sustainability. Innovative learning environments – including simulation labs, digitally enhanced platforms, and AI-powered tools – strengthen employability and prepare them to thrive in diverse contexts.

We are also building sustainable capability across the profession. By embedding lifelong learning alongside our degrees through short courses, specialist training and microcredentials, we enable educators to expand expertise in literacy, numeracy, digital learning, and inclusive practice. This strengthens retention, supports progression into leadership, and directly responds to workforce needs – advancing Australia's productivity agenda.

Guided by La Trobe's AI-first strategy, we are transforming education through investment in modern infrastructure, digital systems, and sustainable operations. AI is central to how we teach, learn and research – amplifying human expertise, redefining teacher education, and building a workforce ready to lead schools and systems nationally and internationally.

PRIORITY 3: KPIs

ADVANCE RESEARCH IMPACT

Secure $5m in Category 2–4 funding by 2030 through translational research in Learning Sciences and Emerging Technologies, Professional Practice and Wellbeing, and Social Equity and Inclusive Education – positioning School of Education researchers as trusted experts in media and policy.

AMPLIFY THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

Be known for our national and international experts who are committed to improving outcomes for all, with influence amplified through strategically timed media, commentary, and thought leadership pieces that shape national debate.

MAINTAIN EMPLOYER SATISFACTION

Ensure our graduates remain among the most highly rated by employers.

GROW ENROLMENTS TO ADDRESS WORKFORCE SHORTAGES

By 2030, we will increase domestic and international enrolments across metropolitan, regional and Sydney campuses to address teacher shortages and build a stronger future workforce – enabled by partnerships, modern infrastructure, and philanthropy.

By 2030, we will increase domestic and international enrolments across metropolitan, regional and Sydney campuses

SECURE GRADUATE EMPLOYMENT OUTCOMES

Exceed 90% employment for undergraduate students and 95% for postgraduate students (La Trobe 2024 benchmarks: UG 89% of domestic student graduates are employed within 4-6 months of graduation; PG 97.1% of domestic student graduates are employed three years after graduation).

BROADEN OFFERINGS

Expand our portfolio through continuing professional development, Doctor of Education, Graduate Diploma of Early Childhood Education, and microcredentials by 2030 with a focus on pathways for education support staff and career-switchers into teaching.

STAND WITH US

TOGETHER WE WILL TRANSFORM EDUCATION INTO A SYSTEM OF EQUITY, INNOVATION AND IMPACT WHERE EVERY LEARNER CAN SUCCEED.

LA TROBE UNIVERSITY

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