

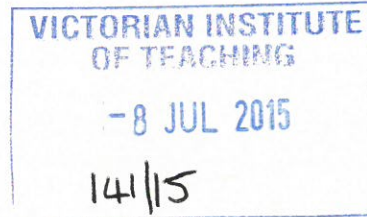


The Hon James Merlino MP

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Mr Don Paproth  
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BRI002539

Dear Mr Paproth

### STATEMENT OF EXPECTATIONS FOR THE VICTORIAN INSTITUTE OF TEACHING

I am pleased to provide you with this Statement of Expectations for the Victorian Institute of Teaching (VIT).

The Statement sets out my expectations of the VIT and applies for the period 2015–16 and 2016–17, or until otherwise amended.

As Minister for Education, I am responsible for administering the *Education and Training Reform Act 2006*, which provides for a high standard of education and training for all Victorians, including by setting out the functions and powers of the VIT. This Statement should be read within the context of the objectives, obligations and functions outlined in the *Act*, as amended.

I expect the VIT to undertake the full range of functions and powers provided to it in legislation. In undertaking this role, I expect the VIT to continue to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of its regulatory activities.

I recognise the progress the VIT has made in achieving the targets set out in the previous Statement of Expectations issued on 29 May 2014. I look forward to the VIT implementing a number of these targets as part of the redevelopment of the VIT's website in July 2015.

I reaffirm the following expectations of the VIT first outlined in the previous Statement:

- I expect the VIT to continue to improve the targeting of its regulatory activity on areas of the greatest risk.
- I expect that the VIT will continue to reduce the time it takes teachers to comply with the requirements of registration by completing the migration of its regulatory processes to an online environment.
- I expect the VIT to maintain high standards of professional practice for teachers to be registered in Victoria, and to support teachers to meet those standards.
- I expect the VIT to plan for its role in registering early childhood teachers from September 2015. I expect the VIT to clearly define and communicate its role and responsibilities, and to ensure that these new responsibilities are effectively and efficiently incorporated into its

existing regulatory processes. I expect the VIT to support early childhood teachers to understand the registration process, the expectations of teachers under the Australian Professional Standards for Teachers, and the Victorian Teaching Profession Code of Conduct.

- I expect the VIT to deepen its engagement with teachers, employers and other stakeholders, to inform the ongoing improvement of its regulatory activities.
- I expect the VIT to continue to improve its accountability and responsiveness to its stakeholders, including monitoring the complaints it receives and to adjust its processes in response to issues identified.
- I expect the VIT to promote cooperation, information sharing, regulatory coherence and efficiency with other regulators and key partners.

In addition, I expect the VIT to:

- implement the commitment in the Government's *Special Needs Plan for Victorian Schools* that all tertiary qualifications approved as appropriate for entry to teaching include a special needs component, and that currently registered teachers undertake special needs training as part of their ongoing professional development.
- work with DET to apply the *Australian Professional Standards for Teachers* which require that teachers know how to structure lessons to meet the physical, social and intellectual characteristics of their students, including those with special needs and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders.
- negotiate a new Memorandum of Understanding between the VIT and DET to manage teacher misconduct in government schools.
- work with DET on appropriate regulatory mechanisms in relation to the teaching profession to ensure that Victorian children are safe.

I also expect the VIT to continue to identify and report on the activities it will undertake to achieve my expectations. In undertaking these, I expect the VIT to consult with stakeholders and the broader community as appropriate.

Reporting on progress should continue to be undertaken in the context of annual financial reporting to avoid dual reporting streams. I also expect that these expectations continue to be incorporated into the VIT Strategic Plan, and that this Statement of Expectations be published on the VIT website upon receipt. I expect that by 1 July 2015, the VIT will outline how it intends to meet these expectations, including details of the specific activities that will be undertaken.

I look forward to seeing the VIT continue to work towards achieving best practice in its critical role as the regulator of teachers in Victoria.

Yours sincerely



**The Hon James Merlino MP**  
Deputy Premier  
Minister for Education

26.6.15