

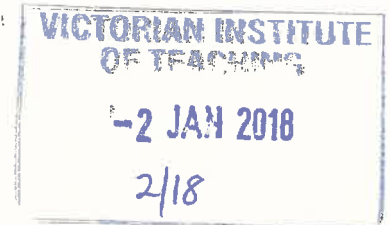


The Hon James Merlino MP

Deputy Premier
Minister for Education
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Ms Lesley Lamb
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Dear Ms Lamb

STATEMENT OF EXPECTATIONS FOR THE VICTORIAN INSTITUTE OF TEACHING

I am pleased to provide you with this Statement of Expectations (SOE) for the Victorian Institute of Teaching (VIT). This SOE is a reissue of the SOE that applied for the period 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2017 and contains only minor updates. This SOE applies for the period 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018 or unless 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.

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 26 June 2015.

I reaffirm the following expectations of the VIT outlined in previous SOEs. I expect the VIT to:

- continue to improve the targeting of its regulatory activity on areas of the greatest risk
- 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
- maintain high standards of professional practice for teachers to be registered in Victoria, and to support teachers to meet those standards
- clearly communicate its role and responsibilities to early childhood teachers about the teacher registration process
- support early childhood teachers to understand the teacher registration process, the expectations of teachers under the Australian Professional Standards for Teachers, and the Victorian Teaching Profession Code of Conduct

- deepen its engagement with teachers, employers and other stakeholders, to inform the ongoing improvement of its regulatory activities
- 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
- promote cooperation, information sharing, regulatory coherence and efficiency with other regulators and key partners
- ensure that all teachers have completed professional development requirements under 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
- ensure 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 an updated Memorandum of Understanding between the VIT and DET that will accommodate the Reportable Conduct scheme to manage teacher misconduct in government schools
- work with the Department of Education and Training (DET) on appropriate regulatory mechanisms in relation to the teaching profession to ensure that Victorian children are safe by working closely with DET on implementing the Child Safe Standards and the Reportable Conduct legislative reform.

I also expect the VIT to continue to identify and report on the activities it will undertake to achieve my expectations. In undertaking these activities, 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 SOE be published on the VIT website upon receipt.

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
Minister for Emergency Services

21.12.17