

# PRACTITIONER RESEARCH ONLINE PROGRAM



There is growing interest in the effectiveness of practitioner research for promoting teachers' professional learning, particularly as systemic requirements for engagement in and with research and making evidence-based decisions gain momentum. Findings from studies demonstrate that teachers who participate in practitioner research exhibit professional growth in terms of research skills and other professional outcomes, such as enhanced classroom or school-wide practice. *The Practitioner Research* online program will provide you with the skills to design, enact and disseminate robust research relevant to your practice. You will enhance your capacity to engage with research as a critical consumer and in research as a practitioner researcher, and you will enjoy the opportunity to share research outcomes with colleagues.

In this six-phase, multi-modal program, you will select an area of interest to research. You will be mentored and provided with training in each phase of the research process – from identifying the research question right through to research methods, data collection and analysis, and interpretation of findings. You will be required to conduct parts of the research process in your own time, such as writing short summaries, reading articles and collecting data. Examples of past research projects include influencing parent engagement; the use of explicit feedback to enhance children's writing; ways to support teachers in the teaching of reading; and the factors influencing the ways in which teachers plan and enact the curriculum.

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Practitioner research is becoming increasingly acknowledged by education authorities across the world as a highly effective means of strengthening educators' professional development.  
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British Education Research Association, 2014

**\$2,500 + GST = \$2,750.00**

**Register via [qeli.qld.edu.au/practitioner-research-program](http://qeli.qld.edu.au/practitioner-research-program)**

**Registrations close 21 Feb 2021**

## PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

The *Practitioner Research* Online Program will build your research capacity and enable you to:

- ▶ robustly provide evidence for decisions of practice through research
- ▶ develop a set of transferable research skills to continue to answer questions of practice
- ▶ create a high standard dissemination product to allow sharing of research findings

## PROGRAM FEATURES

- ▶ Six-phase program, held over the school year
- ▶ 4x Virtual Workshop days
- ▶ Research project, including the preparation of authentic dissemination products
- ▶ Ongoing online mentoring
- ▶ Ongoing peer networking

## WHO SHOULD PARTICIPATE

The program is particularly suited to school leaders, heads of department and teachers, particularly those aspiring to positions of Highly Accomplished and Lead Teacher by providing experience with the Australian Professional Standards for Teachers – Standard 6 and elements of Standards 1, 2, and 3.

## EXAMPLES OF RESEARCH TOPICS

### PURPOSE

- ▶ To analyse the strategies used in a Year 8 mathematics classroom to elicit thinking in the classroom
- ▶ This study explored the translating a framework for formative assessment into experiences in the mathematics classroom aiming to elicit thinking and make it visible
- ▶ To understand what influences the subject selections made by male students in Year 9 and Year 10 when they move from middle to senior school
- ▶ To develop an inquiry-based model of solving open-ended problems to improve Year 8 students' cognitive strategies and engagement when solving generic mathematical problems
- ▶ To investigate the impact of the school's global citizenship education program on the Year 12 students to be "active citizens in a global society"
- ▶ To investigate English teachers' conceptualisations of effective analytical writing and writing interventions in senior English



## PROGRAM STRUCTURE

### Develop an understanding of practitioner research and capacity to engage with, and in, research

You will learn about the underpinning theory and impetus for conducting practitioner research and will have the opportunity to propose and refine your own research focus that is personally and professionally meaningful. You will contextualise your own research questions within existing research and build a foundation for addressing questions related to practice.

### Build deep understanding of how to develop robust and researchable questions

This element of the program incorporates in-depth discussion of research questions and their relationship to study. You will identify potential evidence to provide robust and meaningful answers to research questions.

### Build research skills and knowledge of research methods

You will be mentored to move beyond research questions, to develop proposed methods, including the development of data collection procedures and instruments. You will be introduced to data analysis methods and the essential considerations of ethical research and data collection.

### Engage in data collection and analysis

You will be guided to collect multiple data sets using data collection instruments and procedures and you will learn how to analyse data, using both qualitative and quantitative methods.

### Position research findings within the research field

You will articulate the significance and importance of your research findings and propose potential avenues for further research. You will create a conference abstract, a slide presentation and a conference poster about your research.

PHASE 1 - PROGRAM PREPARATION		PHASE 2 - PLANNING THE RESEARCH PROJECT	
<p>Email with Pre-work</p> <p>Program preparation includes some professional readings and completion of short activities about a research idea from practice and the research setting. Participants will also receive a copy of a research text to support them throughout the program</p>		<p>Virtual Workshop 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Overview of Research Process</li> <li>▶ Establishing the Research Focus</li> <li>▶ Literature Searching &amp; Critical Reading</li> <li>▶ Research Question Design</li> </ul>	<p>Online Mentoring &amp; Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Online mentoring from facilitators</li> <li>▶ Refine research questions</li> <li>▶ Complete short activities to introduce research methods</li> </ul>
PHASE 3 - DESIGNING AND REFINING METHODS		PHASE 4 - DATA COLLECTION	
<p>Virtual Workshop 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Study Design &amp; Research Methods</li> <li>▶ Data Collection Instruments</li> </ul>		<p>Online Mentoring &amp; One-on-one online meetings as needed</p> <p>Participants will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Complete data collection</li> <li>▶ Commence data analysis if ready</li> <li>▶ Receive support during data collection and analysis</li> </ul>	
PHASE 5 - DATA ANALYSIS		PHASE 6 - DATA INTERPRETATION & SHARING FINDINGS	
<p>Virtual Workshop 3 <b>2 Sep 2021, 8am to 4p</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Data analysis: data collation, presentation, analysis methods</li> <li>▶ Preparation of dissemination products</li> </ul>	<p>Online Mentoring &amp; Discussion <b>Sep to Oct 2021</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Online mentoring from facilitators</li> <li>▶ Complete data analysis</li> </ul>	<p>Virtual Workshop 4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Final interpretation of data</li> <li>▶ Completion of dissemination products</li> <li>▶ Sharing findings</li> </ul>	
PHASE 7 - RECOGNITION OF PROGRAM COMPLETION			
<p>Email with Certificate</p>			

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## ABOUT QELi

QELi is an innovative not-for-profit institute committed to delivering excellence in leadership by supporting education leaders from government and non-government sectors, across Australia and internationally, to establish a strong vision, improve student outcomes and lead change in their school context and wider school communities. We support educators at every level – from teachers to principals and system leaders – and corporate services and school support staff to develop leadership capabilities, maximise their potential and reach their leadership goals.

