

ACU welcomes Draft National Teacher Action Plan

Australian Catholic University has welcomed the release of the Federal Government’s Draft National Teacher Workforce Action Plan.

ACU Faculty of Education and Arts Executive Dean Professor Mary Ryan said the plan included practical initiatives designed to meet the challenges facing the teaching profession.

“Many of these measures mirror approaches taken at ACU to ensure we provide quality initial teacher education programs that deliver classroom ready teachers who are confident to teach all subject areas, manage classrooms, work with families, and meet students’ diverse needs,” Professor Ryan said.

Professor Ryan the focus on improving the quality of professional experience placements for undergraduates and postgraduates was of key importance.

“Our strong course retention rates are a testament to the importance of supporting teaching students and ensuring they have opportunities to enter the classroom early through paraprofessional programs, a variety of placements, and paid internships such as the Teach for Australia program,” she said.

Professor Ryan welcomed the emphasis on supporting ITE and early career teachers, as well as measures to attract more students and mid-career changers to teaching.

“Our high post-graduate employment figures demonstrate that teaching is a rewarding and wonderful profession, and this plan will help more teaching students to learn that for themselves,” she said.