Beginning teachers

Working with a mentor
As a beginning teacher, you are entering a profession that sees graduates take full responsibility for student learning from day one. Just like any new job, this initial period can be daunting. That is why mentoring is so important for beginning teachers.

What to expect from your mentor
Under the Mentoring Beginning Teachers (MBT) program, your principal will match you with a mentor during your first 12 months of teaching.

Your mentor will be an experienced practitioner who will regularly engage with you by providing feedback and support, sharing ideas and encouraging reflection, development and growth.

They will support you in:
- developing teaching strategies and skills
- becoming familiar with the school’s values and culture
- developing a good working knowledge of school policies and procedures
- establishing professional networks
- transitioning to full registration with the Queensland College of Teachers.

What your mentor will expect from you
In return, you will be expected to:
- play an active role in the mentoring relationship
- critically reflect on your own teaching practices
- observe experienced teachers in the classroom
- remain open to giving and receiving feedback to develop professional practice.

Who is eligible for a mentor?
All provisionally registered teachers with fewer than 200 days teaching experience, who are permanently employed or on a term-long contract in a Queensland state school, will be matched with a mentor during their first 12 months of teaching.

Who will be your mentor?
Your principal will match you with a mentor, taking into consideration your location, year level, subject area, accessibility and common interests.

Online mentoring
Typically, you will have someone at your school who can work with you face-to-face.

Where a school-based mentor is not available, you will be able to access an online mentor who will be specially trained to facilitate the mentoring relationship in an online environment.

Resources to support beginning teachers
You will have access to supporting resources that will complement your school-based induction. These include the Teacher Induction and Development program and the online coaching modules.

Your mentor will work with you to determine the induction resources that best suit your needs.