



# NEXUS

## MASTER OF TEACHING (SECONDARY)

### WHAT IS NEXUS?

Nexus is an alternative pathway into secondary teaching. Nexus is specifically targeted at recruiting, preparing and supporting secondary teachers for often hard-to-staff regional, rural and urban low SES secondary schools. We're an employment-based, highly mentored teacher education program with unique involvement from La Trobe university, secondary schools and local communities. In 2022, our program was recognised for its innovation when it won at the Australian Financial Review Higher Education Awards in the Employability category.

La Trobe offers Nexus in conjunction with an 18 month or two-year Master of Teaching (Secondary) course. Along with the usual admission requirements, high achieving candidates are selected through an expression of interest and an interview with the school's leadership team.

Nexus participants work part-time in their first year as education support class employees, which gives them the chance to gain valuable insight into the role of a teacher and to build strong relationships with staff, students and the community. The role starts in term two at one day per week, and then in terms three and four grows to two days per week. Salaries are reimbursed by the Victorian DET. Nexus participants also complete 30 days of supervised practicum

at their school. In the program's second year, participants are employed full time out of the school's budget as paraprofessionals with a 0.8 workload to the end of term four. The 30-day practicum in second year is absorbed into the paraprofessional role.

### LA TROBE OFFERS NEXUS PARTICIPANTS:

- more time in schools to develop teaching practice
- a scholarship and stipend to help with finances while studying
- academic, personal and professional support
- community engagement workshops
- extra mentoring from both the school and the university.

Nexus candidates come from very diverse contexts. They share their rich life experiences with Nexus schools and communities right across Victoria. Many Nexus preservice teachers embrace opportunities to work additional days in education support at their school. Nexus staff members are available for support and advice at all campuses in Melbourne, Shepparton, Bendigo, Mildura and Wodonga.

Nexus is a true partnership. Together we make beginner teachers classroom ready.

### LEARN MORE

If you're interested in knowing more, or have need in a specific teaching area, please contact:

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