

ALC-graduate teacher accreditation: Information and procedures for Lutheran schools and early childhood services

The Lutheran Strand program provided by Australian Lutheran College (ALC) enables the ALC graduate to become eligible for accreditation to teach or to teach Christian Studies by the Board for Lutheran Education Australia (BLEA). BLEA has ultimate responsibility for the accreditation of teachers.

ALC-graduate teachers who have completed the Lutheran Strand need to complete *Connect* in the school or early childhood service context but do not need to enrol in or undertake *Equip 1* or *2*. They are granted Accreditation to teach (At) or to teach Christian Studies (Ac) on the recommendation of the *Connect* or *Equip* regional manager. This recommendation is based on the graduate teacher's

- successful completion of *Connect*
- successful preparation of an accreditation ePortfolio (see teacher responsibility below),
- work with a mentor through the ePortfolio compilation process (see school or ECS responsibility below)
- interview with the *Connect* or *Equip* regional manager (see regional responsibility below)

This Accreditation process would ideally occur within the first year of employment. Recommendations may be made for the ongoing development of the teacher, eg, *Equip 1* or *2* if needed.

Responsibilities of the region:

- Identify the ALC-graduate teachers who have been appointed to schools or ECSs
- Ensure that each school or ECS has set up a mentoring process for the ALC graduate teachers to support them with the accreditation ePortfolio requirements
- Organise an interview time for the *Connect* or *Equip* regional manager to meet with each teacher when notified by the school or ECS that the teacher has met ePortfolio requirements
- Submit accreditation recommendations to LEA

Responsibility of the school:

- Provide opportunity for ALC-graduate teachers to take part in *Connect*
- Familiarise key people (eg, head of sub-school, head of department, year level coordinator, year level colleagues) with the accreditation requirements for ALC-graduate teachers
- Appoint a mentor to work with each teacher seeking accreditation
- Monitor mentor and teacher progress across the year
- Notify regional office when teacher is ready for interview with the *Connect* or *Equip* regional manager

Responsibility of the ALC-graduate teacher

- Take part in *Connect*
- Prepare an accreditation ePortfolio according to the requirements for Accreditation as a teacher or Accreditation as a Christian Studies teacher
- Meet regularly with a mentor, working through and refining the requirements of the ePortfolio
- Meet regularly with the Christian Studies leader (if teaching Christian Studies and seeking Accreditation as a Christian Studies teacher)
- Prepare for an interview with the *Connect* or *Equip* regional manager by reflecting on the learning journey and its implications