



# World Teachers' Day QLD

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worldteachersday.com.au

Teaching – where the future begins

## Never a dull moment in teaching

Although teaching English and Geography was Alana Gread-Power's first passion, she now coordinates a Gifted and Talented Enrichment program and is a Pastoral Leader at Nambour Christian College.

"As is often the case, I was inspired to pursue education by my high school teachers, particularly my Geography teachers, who were passionate, engaging and demonstrated a love of their subject areas" Alana said.

"I love being a 'life-long learner' and the opportunity to facilitate the learning of young people is what has kept me in the profession for so long."

Alana loves that although her teaching career has spanned over 20 years, each day is different.

"You never know exactly what might happen in a classroom," she said.

"I relish the challenge of meeting students at their individual stage of the learning journey – you have to think creatively, be flexible and reflective.

"I love that we get to speak into the lives of young people and help them on their journey into the world as independent learners."

When talking about a typical day, Alana says there is no shortage of subjects and topics she teaches students.

"My day might go from discussing business principles of a social enterprise, to using forensic skills to lift fingerprints at a hypothetical crime scene," she said.

"There is never a dull moment."

The highlight of Alana's career was working in a remote Aboriginal Catholic community school as the Head of Campus and Curriculum.

"Alongside incredible staff, Aboriginal Elders, and families, we helped shift the educational outcomes for children," she said.

"We also saw improvements in health and wellbeing, literacy and numeracy, employment and tertiary education numbers."

Alana can't wait to see what the future holds for teaching, with the growth of technology.

"My career began with one desktop computer in a staffroom of 15 teachers, we rarely received emails and most of our work was written by hand," she recalled.

"The emergence of AI poses opportunities and threats to our conceptions of education and knowledge. It's a really interesting time.

"I hope to see a greater emphasis on critical thinking skills and ethics emerge in education.

"It's one thing to have information at your fingertips, but how we decipher it and determine whether we should or shouldn't have it are important considerations.

"Knowing that we are working alongside the world's future leaders and being part of a profession that makes a difference, is what makes teaching so rewarding."

**Alana Gread-Power**  
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