



UQ  
Critical Thinking Project



*Aspiring Thinkers* provides the expert guidance, collaborative network and professional learning pathway required to lead teaching for thinking at your school.

Membership upskills leaders and teachers in how to:

- embed [Critical and Creative Thinking](#) across P-10 subjects and [21<sup>st</sup> century skills](#) within re-developed senior syllabuses;
- develop cognitive skills via a shift in focus from knowledge to inquiry;
- think and plan in the language of student cognition, to facilitate metacognition and provide a language of feedback.

Network membership begins via a foundational two-day workshop.

- Deeply engage with Peter Ellerton's pedagogical schema for teaching for thinking, the values of inquiry, critical thinking matrix and more.
- Connect with like-minded network members and be inspired to implement teaching for thinking with your students and colleagues.
- Receive a certificate recognising AITSL Professional Standards developed and officially join the *Aspiring Thinkers* network.

## Ongoing Value

- ✓ Your membership of \$950pp is valid for 12 mths following the foundational workshop.
- ✓ Members opt-in to an extensive range of network activities (live or on-demand via recordings and forums).
- ✓ Activities include an online induction, one full-day masterclass per term, online professional learning teams and expert or member-presented online workshops.
- ✓ Members actively share practice to empower each other.

## FOUNDATIONAL WORKSHOP DATES – TERM 1-2, 2019

| Term           | Dates                         | Location                                     |                                |
|----------------|-------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|
| Term 1, Week 4 | 21/02/19 – 22/02/19 (Thu-Fri) | University of Queensland, St Lucia, Brisbane | <a href="#">Register here!</a> |
| Term 1, Week 5 | 28/02/19 – 01/03/19 (Thu-Fri) | University of Queensland, St Lucia, Brisbane |                                |
| Term 1, Week 7 | 14/03/19 – 15/03/19 (Thu-Fri) | Townsville – venue TBA                       |                                |
| Term 2, Week 2 | 02/05/19 – 03/05/19 (Thu-Fri) | University of Queensland, St Lucia, Brisbane |                                |
| Term 2, Week 5 | 23/05/19 – 24/05/19 (Thu-Fri) | Regional Centre – TBA                        |                                |

**NB:** [Registrations](#) close approximately two weeks prior to the workshop (or earlier if sold out). Additional dates TBA.



## LEAD TEACHING FOR THINKING AT YOUR SCHOOL!

### Join our powerful network:

*Aspiring Thinkers* expands the quality and scale of engagement between Queensland teachers, school leaders, the University of Queensland and the IMPACT Centre. International collaboration with educators in USA and Canada is under development.

### Build leadership capability:

*Aspiring Thinkers* builds leadership capability in line with [DoE's school improvement model](#). Mentoring services will follow the initial two-day workshop to ensure that participants [engage in inquiry](#) and apply the [standards of evidence](#). Ongoing collaboration will ensure that teachers translate what they have learned into effective classroom practices.



### Improve student achievement:

The IMPACT Centre's Critical Thinking programs (2012-2018) have achieved significant relative gains for students on NAPLAN across all literacy and numeracy strands and improved student achievement in classroom subjects. [Read more.](#)

### Meet 21<sup>st</sup> century needs:

- Critical thinking is fundamental to the idea of a “knowledge economy” — the measure of a society’s capacity to anticipate problems and devise solutions.
- Students trained in critical thinking demonstrate advanced analysing, problem solving and questioning techniques, and are better equipped to embrace change as an opportunity rather than a threat.
- Critical thinking is a highly *transferable* skill, applicable in any domain of work or research, and thus the ultimate “21<sup>st</sup> century skill.” [Read article.](#)

### Selection criteria:

- **Band 9-11** schools/clusters must involve a minimum of **two** aspiring teachers and/or leaders who have the mindset to lead change, the interpersonal skills to engage your staff and the dedication to actively participate in the network.
- **Band 5-8** schools or clusters can select one or more staff members with the attributes described above.

### Membership fee:

Your initial membership fee is **\$950 per person**. It is valid for 12 months following the foundational two-day workshop. This is exceptional value given the ongoing value and range of the activities offered across the year – see previous page for details.

**NB:** Your school will be invoiced by the IMPACT Centre after the foundational two-day workshop. You may need to fund TRS to attend the workshop and future masterclasses, although online alternatives are offered where possible. You may also need to fund travel and accommodation expenses depending on your location.

*The award-winning University of Queensland Critical Thinking Project (UQCTP) enables teachers to articulate reasoning skills within the context of disciplinary knowledge, in a way that empowers students to transfer the language, skill set and cognitive awareness associated with critical thinking to other disciplines and areas of their lives.*



*Peter Ellerton leads University of Queensland's involvement.*  
[View Peter's profile >>>](#)

*The award-winning IMPACT Centre is an initiative of the Department of Education. Our team of specialist teachers and network leaders work directly with students and staff from over 300 Queensland schools. We are University of Queensland's largest community partner and collaborate very productively with UQCTP.*



*Glen Watt leads the IMPACT Centre's involvement.*  
[View Glen's profile >>>](#)