

# A Statement of Commitment to the Profession of Teaching Assistant

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**I acknowledge that I am a member of a profession that extends to me the opportunity and the privilege to make a positive difference in the lives of young people.**

- I bring to the profession my unique talents to support learning and teaching, and I commit to nurturing and developing these talents throughout my career.
- I understand that supporting learning and teaching is a deeply human endeavour. While I support learning and teaching, above all I support young people, who are our future.
- I support learning and teaching by working alongside teachers, recognising their role as classroom leaders and valuing the responsibility and privilege of supporting them.
- I recognise and respect the body of distinct theory and knowledge which I strive to learn from and apply to my practice when supporting learning and teaching.
- I recognise that young people learn in different ways and at different rates. I believe that given appropriate support and resourcing, all young people can learn, and I strive to offer support that will help every young person to succeed.
- I work alongside teachers to support the evaluation of student achievement, and I ensure my role upholds the integrity of assessments.
- I recognise that supporting learning and teaching is a collaborative process. My work is enriched through working with my colleagues, learning from them, and contributing to their practice.
- I acknowledge the contribution of the many parents, caregivers, teaching assistants, and teachers, past, present and future who contribute to a young person's education.
- I offer a spirit of optimism, resilience, and hope as I support young people to develop and act on the values, beliefs and capabilities that guide them throughout their lives.
- I recognise the changing nature of knowledge, and I commit to continuous learning throughout my professional career of supporting learning and teaching.

**In committing to this statement, I accept the responsibilities of being a teaching assistant, and acknowledge the deep trust placed in me by young people, teachers, parents, caregivers, and society.**

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# Using the Statement of Commitment

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Built on the *Statement of Commitment to the Profession of Teaching*, created by the Queensland Executive of the Australian Council for Educational Leaders (2015), this Statement provides **teaching assistants** with a set of statements that capture the deep-set values of supporting learning and teaching, to inspire teaching assistants to take pride in their profession, and the value they add to the lives of those they work with.

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## Why a Statement of Commitment Matters

### It affirms professional identity

Sometimes the role of teaching assistant is seen as ‘just supporting’. Having a formal statement helps to elevate the role and explain to others that teaching assistants belong to a profession with its own values, theory, and responsibilities.

### It anchors core values in words

A statement built around core values of the role provides teaching assistants with direction and purpose for the daily support they give to young people and teachers. When challenges come, the statement remains, providing a reminder of the core commitments of the role.

### It fosters ownership and agency

This statement is intended to be something that teaching assistants can “claim as their own.” It encourages reflection, discussion, and adaptation within local contexts.

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## What This Means for Teaching Assistants

- **Claim it and Make it Your Own:** Bring this statement into staff rooms, professional goal-setting sessions, and induction processes: discuss it, rephrase it, make it relevant to your context.
- **Use it for reflection:** Take time weekly, monthly, annually to ask: Which line of the statement speaks most to me now? Where might I focus next?
- **Embed it in performance and PD:** Schools can integrate it into role descriptions, professional learning plans, and performance conversations.

*May this statement become a guiding light in your daily work, your career growth, and your view of the value and vital contribution you make to young people’s learning and lives.*

*This is more than a symbolic gesture. It’s a moment to celebrate the heart, skills and purpose of those who stand shoulder to shoulder with teachers, contributing to classroom success every day.*

Australian Teacher Aide

