

Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards

Fact Sheet



- The Government will introduce legislation to merge the NSW Institute of Teachers and the Board of Studies NSW to form a new body called the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards.
- The new body will begin operating from January 1, 2014, subject to the passing of legislation in the Spring session.
- This merger will draw on the evidence from leading OECD jurisdictions. It will allow all teacher quality measures to directly reflect the requirements of the curriculum and ensure the evaluation of those measures directly through student assessment, providing a substantial and new dimension to educational policy.
- The consultation undertaken as part of the Government's *Great Teaching, Inspired Learning* (GTIL) reforms highlighted the need to coordinate the functions of the Institute and the Board of Studies. It also highlighted the need for teacher quality policy to be linked directly to the improvement of student learning.
- In addition to existing functions of both bodies, the BoSTES will be required to monitor and advise on policy for improving student learning, and in particular the relationship between the three key sets of educational standards – teaching, curriculum and student learning.
- This recognises the importance of teacher quality and teaching standards and the importance of applying those standards to improve student learning.
- All the existing functions of the NSW Institute of Teachers will be maintained in the new body, including:
 - Registration and Accreditation of teachers at all levels
 - Approval of Initial Teacher Education
 - Endorsement of teachers' professional learning.
- The functions of the Board of Studies NSW relating to curriculum, examinations and registration will also continue.
- The Institute's Quality Teaching Council (QTC) will be maintained in its current form and with its current charter. The QTC's relationship with the new Board will be similar to its relationship with the current Board of Governance.
- The Institute's Board of Governance will be replaced in its functions by the new Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards. The new Board will also take over the functions of the current Board of Studies NSW.
- The legislation will make provision to ensure the hypothecation of teachers' funds within the new body. An audit committee with independent representation will oversee the hypothecation.
- The operational structure of the new organisation will be developed after legislation is passed. Existing operational structures will be maintained until then.