



World Teachers' Day QLD

Friday 25th October 2024
worldteachersday.com.au



Teachers make a **difference**

Teachers, the building blocks for the future

Having had some wonderful teachers in high school, who made a big impact on her decision to become a teacher, Zoe hopes to inspire students in the way her teachers' inspired her.

Starting out as a teacher aide, Zoe entered the profession via the Queensland College of Teachers' [Permission to Teach](#) (PTT). Initially intending to teach English and Drama, she has since taught a variety of subjects and is currently focused on English, maths and literacy and numeracy intervention programs.

"I feel so much pride when a student gets to the end of an intervention program and can read passages of text when they started out with small sentences," Zoe said.

Zoe uses her own experiences in school to drive the way she works with her students. Having struggled with maths in secondary school, she strives to make maths accessible so students can be successful in their learning and feel confident in themselves.

"I love that teaching allows me to create inclusive and supportive spaces where every child can learn and succeed."

Zoe was recently awarded the [Sigfried Engelmann Excellence in Education award](#) – only the second Australian to receive the award – for her impact on student learning.

"One of my success stories is a Year 7 student who had rarely attended full school days," she said.

"I was able to use the principles of direct instruction and explicit teaching to work with the student, who now has an attendance rate of 100% and is a leader in the classroom for others.

"I think it is so important that teachers have a learning mindset and are committed to improving their practice to improve student outcomes. It's all about the students."

Seeing the difference she has made in her students' lives, Zoe knows there is so much more to teaching than just academic gains when students feel successful and believe in themselves.

"I love that teaching gives me the opportunity to support young people and give them the tools to set them up for success in the rest of their lives," she said.

"I've had some incredible mentors who have helped shaped me into the teacher I am today.

"I would encourage anyone with a passion for supporting young people to study teaching, as teachers are the building blocks of everything."

Zoe Anlezark

Mastery Schools Australia – Coolangatta QLD