

South Australia has always led the way in innovation in education. From the Kaurana School of the 19th century, the days of Lillian de Lissa, the Aboriginal Task Force and on to today, this State has continually taken bold steps to augment delivery of quality, equitable education across the board. Together the South Australian Department for Education & Child Development and the University of South Australia will now take another step and through the Magill Education Precinct, we will work to once again position South Australia at the forefront of education in this country.

Our shared vision is to transform both the way in which we educate our teachers and the way in which students learn, ensuring the best outcomes for South Australia school students. Through collaboration and partnership, we will build a high quality teaching workforce, lifting the profession to the level that it needs to equip our school students with the knowledge, skills and capabilities necessary for further learning and work and to becoming confident individuals and citizens in a complex society.

To realise this vision, we envisage the creation of a dedicated education precinct, delivered through partnership between Government, the schooling sector and the University of South Australia (UniSA), and centred on UniSA's Magill Campus. This precinct will ultimately accommodate all facets of education from early childhood, through primary and secondary, to tertiary and life-long learning. It will also support special needs education.

The proposed Precinct would deliver a unique combination of teaching, practice and research. It will provide opportunities for university researchers and practising teachers to work together more extensively to investigate what works in the classroom and beyond; it will enable school students to experience first-hand how teachers are trained, leading more to choose that profession: and most importantly it will provide a range of opportunities for student-teachers to work in the classroom with both practitioners and researchers in a range of settings both on the Precinct and across the schooling sector.

We see the Precinct as a resource for the whole state, providing a core for evidence-based innovation in education which will radiate throughout our education system and providing opportunities for professional development in an environment that supports innovation and the exploration of new approaches to teaching and learning and school leadership. The Precinct provides an exciting opportunity to contribute to DECD system reform by lifting the achievement levels of a range of learners across the group of sites in the DECD local partnership.

Through the broader resources of UniSA, in areas such as psychology, social work and health, the Precinct will also provide a holistic approach to child development and learning as well as providing support services to parents and carers and the broader community.

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