

Strategic Plan 2019-2020



VATE

VICTORIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE TEACHING OF ENGLISH

Who we are and what we do

In July 1959 an experimental initiative marked the formation of the Victorian Association for the Teaching of English. The purpose of the Association was to 'stimulate interest in the teaching of English and background studies' and three meetings were planned. By October 1960 the Association had become established enough to hold its first AGM and it had 160 members.

Since 1960 VATE has gone on to support its members as they have coped with the various changes to the teaching and learning of English over the last sixty years.

VATE is an independent, not for profit organisation that aims to foster the highest quality teaching of English throughout Victoria.


Through professional networks, involving the sharing of narratives and learning about English teaching, as well as research, journals, professional learning, and other resources, VATE strives to nurture a community of teachers of English and teacher educators committed to the advancement of the profession. VATE exists to support its members in the continual process of renewal necessary to engage with the dynamic nature of both the profession and the subject English.

To this end, VATE commits itself to:


- Developing and providing strong advocacy for VATE policy in a range of forums;
- Providing effective professional learning for teachers to ensure continued development and implementation of exemplary practice in the learning and teaching of English at state and national levels;
- Promoting opportunities through networks to foster critical, creative and reflective thinking about what we do and know as teachers of English;
- Supporting the practical and theoretical work of teachers of English, recognising and providing support for educators in this dynamic professional landscape;
- Understanding that teaching is an ongoing learning process which builds through reflective practice;
- Initiating research, publishing and disseminating quality publications based on exemplary teaching, learning and research;
- Developing strategic partnerships at state and national levels with other teaching associations, bureaucracies, statutory bodies and organisations;
- Giving practical recognition to the fundamental importance of English in the curriculum;
- Ensuring that VATE remains a viable subject association which is responsibly and efficiently managed for the benefit of the English teaching profession.





VATE Values




VALUE 1:
Advocacy and
Partnerships




VALUE 2:
Membership
and Networking



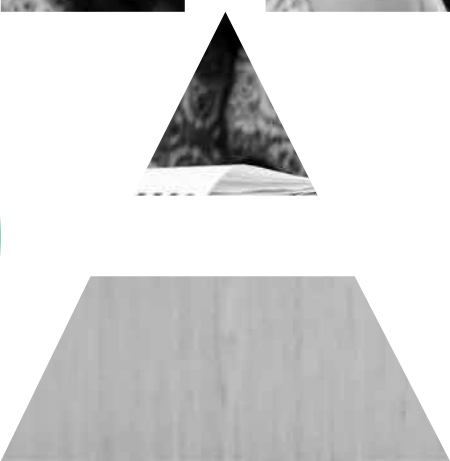
VALUE 3:
Professional
Learning and
Research



VALUE 4:
Publications and
Communications



VALUE 5:
Curriculum
and Pedagogy



VALUE 6:
Ethical
Governance

Advocacy and Partnerships

VATE values	Strategic intent	Strategic actions
Advocacy	To promote and advance the work of teachers of English and to be a strong advocate for them and the English curriculum with government, government agencies and all other relevant stakeholders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Respond to issues at a state and federal level and communicate VATE's position to the membership and the wider community, and extend VATE's profile as the peak professional body Celebrate the diversity of English teachers through promoting the work of the members to the VATE community
Partnerships	Maintain, strengthen and develop partnerships which support the work of VATE and its membership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen publisher relationships in order to provide access to a diverse range of publications and research Maintain strong relationships with the VCAA and DET Maintain and develop partnerships with other organisations/ associations, including arts organisations, for the benefit of VATE members

Membership and Networking

VATE values	Strategic intent	Strategic actions
Membership	Strengthen and extend the VATE membership base and the services and benefits provided to VATE members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhance VATE's communications to its members Develop VATE's member services and benefits to cater for the range of members and their needs Provide VATE members with opportunities to share their expertise for the benefit of the VATE community Expand VATE's support and services to its members in regional areas
Networking	Maintain VATE's active networks and initiate new networking opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop networking opportunities on the website Create new networks to support the needs of the diverse groups within the VATE community Develop policies to support VATE's online networks

Professional Learning and Research

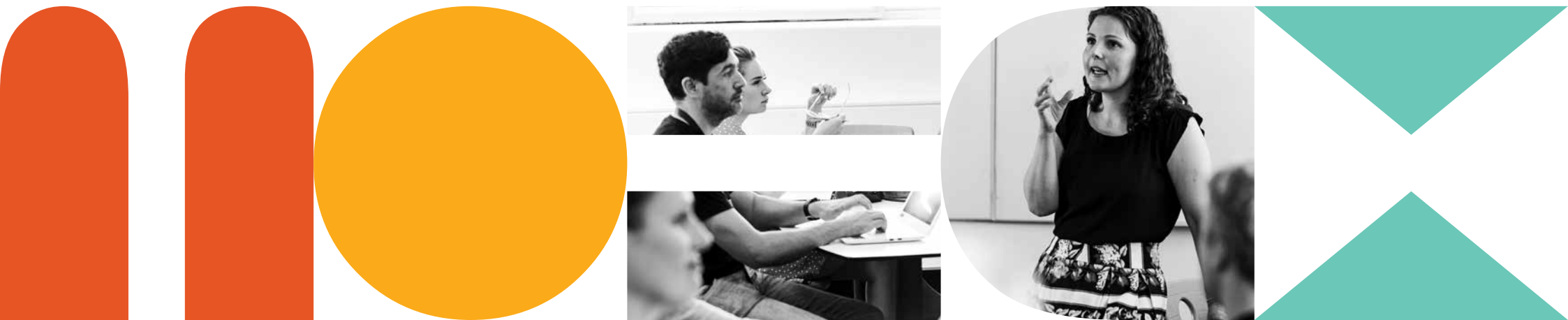
VATE values	Strategic intent	Strategic actions
Professional Learning	Maintain and strengthen VATE's commitment to high quality professional learning and collaboration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide a broad range of professional learning opportunities that are relevant and responsive to the diverse needs of members and to developments in English education • Extend professional learning through developing opportunities for publications, resources and dissemination of information
Research	Strengthen VATE's engagement with relevant research in English education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote and market opportunities for our members to become involved in and conduct VATE sponsored research projects • Respond to opportunities for research • Promote and support action research within the context of member schools

Publications and Communications

VATE values	Strategic intent	Strategic actions
Publications	Maintain and develop VATE's high quality and broad range of publications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create new opportunities and improve the diversity of VATE publications • Develop policies around Idiom • Extend VATE's presence in the online publishing market • Enhance the reach and functionality of Idiom as an online publication • Continue to develop the mobile VATE bookshop at professional learning events • Explore the possibility of establishing a professional library embracing both relevant and useful classroom resources through the website
Communications	Develop and enhance VATE's communication with its members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Produce and distribute a range of member communications • Monitor the access and reach of VATE's communications • Promote information that is relevant to members • Develop and expand advertising opportunities with VATE

Curriculum and Pedagogy

VATE values	Strategic intent	Strategic actions
Curriculum	<p>To engage with current issues around curriculum relevant to English education</p> <p>Provide opportunities for English educators to reflect on their practice</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide access to historical documentation relating to VCE English curriculum and pedagogy• Identify, research and consider established and emerging curriculum issues important to the teaching of English in Victoria• Initiate opportunities for member engagement with, and discussion of, issues related to the English curriculum• Provide opportunities to reflect on assessment practices• Promote opportunities for members to develop new and enhanced teaching skills



Ethical Governance

VATE values	Strategic intent	Strategic actions
Business practices	To demonstrate good governance and exemplary practice in leading and managing VATE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop Council and staff policies and procedures that are transparent and aligned with best business practice and legislation • Maintain consistent and collaborative decision-making processes between Council, committees and VATE office staff • Regular reviews of the Rules of Association and Committee Terms of Reference • Ensure that all members of Council are familiar with the Rules of Association and their legal responsibilities • Increase promotion of member involvement in Council and committees
Finance	Strengthen VATE's financial practices and processes, and maintain the integrity and stability of VATE accounts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop Council's financial literacy • Review VATE's financial practices and processes, to ensure integrity and transparency • Investigate new revenue streams
Office	To support the VATE office staff in implementing the strategic goals of VATE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain a professional dialogue with staff around their work • Develop Professional Learning Plans to enhance the work of VATE • Develop and utilise the expertise and knowledge of the VATE staff

Guiding principles

- Measurable
- Achievable
- Reflective of our Values
- Forward thinking – reflective of our renewal and its priorities
- Membership at its core





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