

# Professional Experience Visits



## Benefits

- For PSTs: Provides structured feedback, encourages self-reflection, and ensures professional growth.
- For Mentors: Opportunity for support in guiding PSTs.
- For Schools: Strengthens partnerships with Deakin and enhances the placement experience.
- For PSTs: Provides structured feedback, encourages self-reflection, and ensures professional growth.
- For Mentors: Offers support in guiding PSTs and reinforces professional learning.
- For Schools: Strengthens partnerships with Deakin and enhances the placement experience.
- For Deakin Staff: Fosters connections with school communities.

## Supporting Pre-Service Teachers in Placement

### Overview

Professional Experience (placement) visits are designed to provide timely support, feedback, and oversight to Pre-Service Teachers (PSTs) during their placement. These visits ensure quality learning experiences, promote reflective practice, and foster strong connections between PSTs, mentors, schools, and Deakin University staff.

### Key features

- Each PST receives at least one visit during their Initial Teacher Education degree.
- Visits ideally occur in placements of 15 days or longer and are optimally scheduled during a Consolidating placement (mid-degree).
- Typically scheduled in Week 2 of the placement.

### Visit structure

- A Deakin academic staff member will conduct the visit.
- The majority of visits will be online, though some may be on-site where required.
- Visits are generally between the PST and academic staff member, though mentors may be included when appropriate.
- Discussions during the visit will cover:
  - PST's progress, including strengths and areas for development.
  - Teaching and learning reflections, with a focus on professional growth.
  - Placement expectations, ensuring alignment with course requirements.
  - Support needs, identifying any challenges and strategies for success.

### Additional support

On-demand visits are available for complex placement needs.