

Submission  
No 252

**INQUIRY INTO TEACHER SHORTAGES IN NEW SOUTH  
WALES**

**Name:** Name suppressed

**Date Received:** 4 July 2022

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Partially  
Confidential

Good morning,

Please see below my recent email to the minister of education.

I am a highly qualified teacher of 20 years currently working in NSW on a sponsorship form London UK. I have my NESA number and my DET number.

I am at the highest pay scale in my teaching in the subject as a Head of Physical Education. I have also studied part of my Master's of Education and I have also been a lead teacher trainer for this graduates that want to complete their PGCE in London UK.

I am probably one of many teachers trying to stay here to offer my skills as a teacher but due to AITSL having complexed and difficult criteria, and not recognising UK university qualifications such as GTP/QTS with degrees and PGCE top up courses.

I am trying to find a more permanent way of staying in this country to provide my skills but I am struggling because AITSL does not recognise my qualifications.

I think once this is adjusted/ammended and more inlign with the UK's qualifications (a fellow Commonwealth country) then more qualified teachers certainly from the UK will be able to undertake the visas allowing them to stay on the country and provide their skills.

AITSL does not offer any easy communication in terms of a phone call. They are also taking 10 weeks to get back to you and they demand another \$800 if you want to appeal after initially asking for \$1000. This is all very expensive.

Aitsl regulations and criteria needs to be adjusted and more in line with other countries such as the UK.

This is a major factor.

Regards

Dear Jason,

I hope this email finds you well?

I am a very passionate, well qualified teacher of 20 years of physical education (from London UK) currently teaching and working in New South Wales and living in Sutherland Shire with my husband and 3 children.

I am currently teaching out west in James Erksine Public School and Oxley Park Public School. I can see you background is in the area.

I was initially sponsored to come over and work here and we are all loving our journey that we are now trying to find a way to settle here which is proving difficult so I wanted to reach out to you.

Currently, as we know there are huge teacher shortages, however myself, and my friends who are also qualified teachers are finding it a timely, complexed and expensive process.

I have recently received my NSW DET (department for education number) and have my nesa number and so I am recognised for my qualifications to work in schools here. I have also been working in schools in NSW for over 3 years now.

In terms of staying in the country as a migrant, I need to apply for a different visa, one of which is called a NSW State nomination visa. For this visa, you are required to have a positive skills assessment via AITSL.

For a positive skills assessment from AITSL you need to have certain criteria including you degree, PGCE etc like you do for your DET number. This process costs over a \$1000 dollars and takes 10 weeks.

I have just received mine back and it finds me not suitable?

I now need to find another \$900 approximately to appeal this decision?! An expensive process when we have just recently paid to have documents looked at.

I am a fully qualified teacher ranked the highest in my capacity as Head of Sport of 20 years and I have also tutored and mentored newly qualified teachers in the UK. I can help with current shortages, however, I am not suitable under AITSL?! Although, I am recognised as qualified by NESA and DET?

AITSL state they do not want anyone coming to their offices and they are not willing to speak over the phone? Also, you cannot email them? Surely they should be working alongside and in line with the views of the government?

I was wondering whether this could be looked into? I have read that AITSL is governed by the Commonwealth, however, therefore, why is it proving so difficult to have my UK teacher qualifications recognised?

It is so frustrating when there are teachers willing to provide their skills, however, they are struggling to be able to help.

We should all be working together, unitedly.

If this process was more accurate and conjusive then possibly NSW wouldn't be suffering with the current teacher shortages?

The teacher training in the UK is one of the best in world and whilst the UK and Australia are in the Commonwealth shouldn't we be working together and accepting the same qualifications?

I hope to hear back from you.

Kind regards