

We are in our third year of having a cadet teacher program within our school. Our pre-service teachers undertake their study at various institutions across Brisbane. Our cadets share that working within our school on an ongoing basis provides them with practical experience that is contextualised within a learning community where they are known and where they work with students in real contexts. Some of our cadets do express disappointment regarding the disconnect between what is covered in their education courses and what they realise they need to be successful in schools. It is my personal belief that as a profession, we lost a great deal of proven teaching techniques when we moved away from practical teacher colleges to universities in the 1990s for initial teacher education. University style courses, in my opinion, are best suited to further study once a teacher has made it through their initial few years of teaching and are ready to pursue deeper understanding of theories and/or undertake research.