

Teachers' PLD: Making sure it's worth it

ERO looked at PLD that shifts teacher practice. This Good Practice Framework tool supports school leaders to make good decisions around PLD for teachers – to make sure it's worth it.

To be effective, PLD needs to be...



Well-designed PLD needs to:

Build teachers' knowledge

- → Pace and time PLD to provide the right learning at the right time
- → Draw on expertise, from within the school and externally
- → Support with practical supports like observations and meetings

Help teachers develop teaching techniques

- → Provide clear, step-by-step guidance for a variety of techniques
- → Use instruction, modelling, rehearsal, and feedback
- → Include group activities, discussions, and collaborative tasks

Give teachers the tools to take what they have learnt and use it

- → Provide tools that can be applied immediately in the classroom
- → Ready-to-use tools might include prompts, props, scripts, assessment framework exemplars, or learning activity examples

Motivate teachers to use what they have learnt

- → Share the purpose of PLD, how it is relevant, and credible evidence that it will lead to improved student outcomes.
- → Keep up momentum with goals, support, and encouragement

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More info:

Want more detail, including evidence-based strategies and stories? Check out our full Good Practice Framework guide here at evidence.ero.govt.nz

2 Well-selected

Well-selected PLD needs to:

Be relevant to school, student, and teacher needs

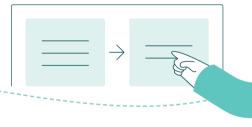
- → Align PLD to strategic priorities for the school, teachers, and students
- → Consider fit and relevance to the school's context
- → Manage within time and resource constraints

Focus on student outcomes

- → Use student data to drive decisions about where to focus
- → Take into account national and system-level priorities
- → Look for evidence that PLD can shift student outcomes

Be credible and evidence-based

- → PLD delivery (methods, facilitators) is credible and evidence-based
- → PLD content (programmes, topics) is credible and evidence-based



3 Well-embedded

When PLD is well-embedded:

Teachers are expected and supported to use what they have learnt

- → Plan ahead how teachers will be supported to embed new learning into the classroom
- → Use plans, processes, and professional supports to keep momentum
- → Prioritise preventing a return to business as usual through goals, meetings, observations, feedback, policies, and inductions for new staff

Teachers are clear about where adaptations can be made, or not

- → Be explicit about where teachers can tweak practices to respond to student needs
- → Be explicit about what needs to be followed exactly

Effectiveness of any changes is monitored

- → Assess evidence of changes to teacher practice and student outcomes
- → Affirm and reinforce improvements and celebrate success