

## **Testimonials:**

Cynthia Dodd has been a leading Modern Languages Teacher in Japanese at Churchie Middle School. Her enthusiasm and love for teaching, and particularly in Japanese language, were held in wide regard by her colleagues and the boys. Cynthia's assessment expertise, honed by involvement in national Assessment for Learning and Queensland Essential Learnings project work, has helped inform our Middle School assessment practices.

Cynthia particularly aimed to tailor rigorous inquiry-based programs to engage different learning styles, to innovate on curriculum and to design and enact integrated curriculum. An example of this is "Dreaming Bunraku", an integrated Japanese/The Arts unit culminating in a puppet show fully designed and produced by students. Such units aimed to develop inter-culturally adept Languages students able to collaborate, problem solve and innovate. Cynthia used ICTs extensively, not least in extension and support materials for the school learning management system.

### **Dirk Wellham , Deputy Headmaster (Academic), Anglican Church Grammar School**

Cynthia taught Japanese at Holland Park SHS for many years. She produced a number of outstanding students of Japanese, who went on to win awards and further their study of the language. She established a strong platform for languages at the school, which saw language study as valued. This has endured, resulting in Japanese enrolments well above that experienced in other schools. Cynthia continues to be an enthusiast for language learning and applies a creative flair to the planning, teaching and assessment of languages. Cynthia is well respected by her colleagues, both language teachers and teachers from other areas. She has been recognised for her leadership through her position as President of MLTAQ. Over many years she supported teachers in local primary schools. Cynthia can be relied upon to develop ideas and practical strategies that work with even the most reluctant learners. She led several school trips to Japan, and was the driving force behind our sister school relationship with Tennoji Senior High School, now a warm and long standing partnership.

### **Jocelyn Roberts Principal, Holland Park SHS; Vice President Qld Secondary Principals' Association**

It has always been an absolute personal and professional pleasure to work with Cynthia Dodd in areas of curriculum development and teacher professional development. Many people can talk the talk. Some can walk the walk. Few can walk the talk, but Cynthia is able to do this in her own practice, and is also able to effectively facilitate others to achieve this through professional development and support. She has a strong grasp of what is new and exciting in educational research at any time, but more importantly is able to filter this with a view to practical classroom application that improves student engagement and achievement. This makes her work both innovative and classroom-friendly. I have experienced how she is able to help teachers dare to dream big dreams, and then help them realise these dreams through the respectful support that she offers.

### **Esther Shaw , Senior Teaching Fellow , Hong Kong Institute of Education**

...“Your contribution over the twelve months of Phase 2 of the project has indeed been extremely valuable. Your multiple roles as writer of assessment tasks and worksample annotations, presenter at the briefings for trialling teachers and participant in the marking and moderation of the worksamples have all been vital to the project.

I’ve particularly valued your professional expertise in a learning area with which I am not particularly familiar, and I have learned a great deal from you as a result of our collaboration.

Thank you, too, for your willingness to respond to frequent email requests and your capacity to respond pragmatically to requests that might not always have coincided with your preferred position.” ....

**Toni Glasson , Senior Project Manager, Curriculum Corporation Assessment for Learning Project**

Cynthia has made significant contributions to the agenda of Intercultural Language Teaching and Learning in Australia. She was one of the original teachers to trial the approach in Queensland, during the first stage of the national ILTLP Project, and then worked as part of the national Implementation Team, workshopping and mentoring the approach with significant numbers of Queensland teachers. Her strong classroom background, leadership role in professional associations and familiarity with current theoretical debates and initiatives make her an effective and collaborative languages educator.

**Jo Carr, Senior Lecturer in Language Teacher Education, School of Cultural and Language Studies, Queensland University of Technology.**