

PCK HPE Mentor Program 2022

John Williams



I have worked since 2013 at UC as a teacher educator, and have worked in physical education teaching, outdoor education and sport development since 1987. During this time I have also worked as an athlete career education officer with the Scottish Institute of Sport and briefly at the Australian Institute of Sport. I am also currently a National Board Director for our professional association, the Australian Council for Health, Physical Education and Recreation. In addition, I am a Level 1 for Alpine Ski teacher and performance coach. I am passionate about promoting quality physical education and continuing to help you on your journey to be the best teachers you can be. This unit is only the beginning of that journey of lifelong learning and personal development or at least for the length of your careers. I am really looking forward to working with you all.

Catherine Butler



Moving from a future educator to a Health and Physical Education teacher was a challenging but incredibly rewarding experience. From the beginning I worked hard to communicate with parents and families; staff and students particularly as it relates to Outdoor Education to make sure that I could, in a practical sense, implement and manage diverse student learning and development needs. This has been especially so during and since COVID. As part of this I am particularly interested in how to provide students and especially girls with opportunities to explore issues that are likely to impact on the health, safety and wellbeing of themselves and others now and in the future. Participating in challenging and enjoyable physical activity as part of Outdoor Education is an important aspect of this.

In developing my confidence as a leader in Outdoor Education I have had the privilege to work with a number of outstanding educators. They have passed on invaluable skills and knowledge but also given me the confidence to deliver a challenging but rewarding experience for our students. I feel that it's important that I share this learning with the next generation of educators so that they can feel confident to go forward and develop themselves as professionals in the education environment. I would welcome the opportunity to be involved in the Teacher Mentor Support Network not only so that I can pass on my learnings and experiences but to also hear from you about how you might apply their university experiences to a school environment.

Ben Williams



I have been involved in high school education in the ACT for the past 23 years, in which time I have worked with many fantastic educators. I have endeavoured to take the very best parts of each of them, and build that into what I do in my teaching. At the centre of our wonderful profession, of course, is the students. Learning is something that never stops and I enjoy sharing my experiences in education and through sport to facilitate the learning of students, as well as mentoring teachers to improve and get better at what we

do every day. Teaching is a challenging profession, but one that is incredibly rewarding and the connections we make with our teaching colleagues and our students last throughout the years. Having the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of our young people, each and every day, is an absolute privilege and one that I consider myself lucky to call my job. I welcome the opportunity to help support our future educators as we create a bridge from the important learning at university into real world teaching in schools.

I believe that I can help teachers feel safe to ask questions, not be afraid of failure, and to work on the aspects of their teaching that will aid the transition from university into earning employment in schools.

Faye Robertson



I am an energetic, passionate and dedicated teacher by example. As an educator I have demonstrated the capacity to deliver high quality pedagogy across varied contexts and age ranges (Junior and Secondary). I have a proven ability to interpret, develop and implement different educational frameworks to the highest standard. My classroom culture is one in which students are inspired and enthused to learn with a focus on healthy relationships, ethical responsibility and personal challenge.

My educational philosophy focuses on the question; how can we best prepare all students for a world that will require more of them? I believe that students need to feel safe and empowered so that they can trust their talents, step out of their comfort-zone and fulfill their potential. Improvements in student learning and educational outcomes depend on the use of evidence-based classroom practice. My endeavours in learning and teaching have contributed to an improved climate by contextualising content, increasing engagement, developing inquiry skills and providing differentiation.

Throughout my teaching career, I have demonstrated my deep commitment to improving student's wellbeing and educational outcomes. I often reflect and seek opportunities to improve my own practice broadening my own skill set holistically with diversity. In addition, I seek regular opportunities to help colleagues improve their practice. As a dedicated and passionate educator, I welcome opportunities for growth and thrive in educational settings that support and incite holistic commitment to learning and teaching. I endeavour to transfer my skill set and passions to both students and staff alike, as I truly believe that learning is transcendent and relevant to all facets in life.

Sophie Newton



I currently work across 5 primary schools in the ACT, aiming to upskill classroom teachers in delivering gold-standard 'Quality Physical Education' (QPE) that I learned through contemporary theories and practices during my time as a student when I recently studied the HPE Primary Teacher degree at the University of Canberra. I am continually building my PE expertise through working closely with my mentor, an experienced PE teacher in the ACT, whose knowledge I can also pass onto you. I also work with some of the best PE pedagogues in Australia where I am constantly implementing their work into my daily PE teaching, including John Williams and Michael Davies in the HPE Faculty at the UC. I am passionate about PE because I am seeking to change the way it has traditionally been taught

and want students in schools to experience the QPE they need to live a flourishing life after school, which all starts with the teaching of QPE in schools and the education of pre-service teachers!

I believe my knowledge and expertise would be of value in the supporting of pre-service teachers because I am a recent graduate, having done the same degree as primary pre-service teachers, as well as some of the same units as secondary pre-service teachers. I also currently take two HPE tutorials at the University of Canberra for both primary and secondary students, so I may have met some of you already! I am caring, enthusiastic and willing to help.

Jenny Hall

Head HPE Faculty, Canberra Girls Grammar School Senior Campus.



With over 25 years of teaching experience as a Head of Faculty, teacher of HPE and Exercise Science, I always hope to foster curiosity and a love of learning. Like you, our young people are engaged in their own development journey through challenge, reflection, and ownership. They are able to follow their own path and explore the world they wish to create for themselves. All whilst being confident and competent movers, and lifelong advocates for their own and others health and wellbeing. It is a great joy to witness our young people find their passions, as we, the skilled and dedicated teachers lead them through their journey.