ACER

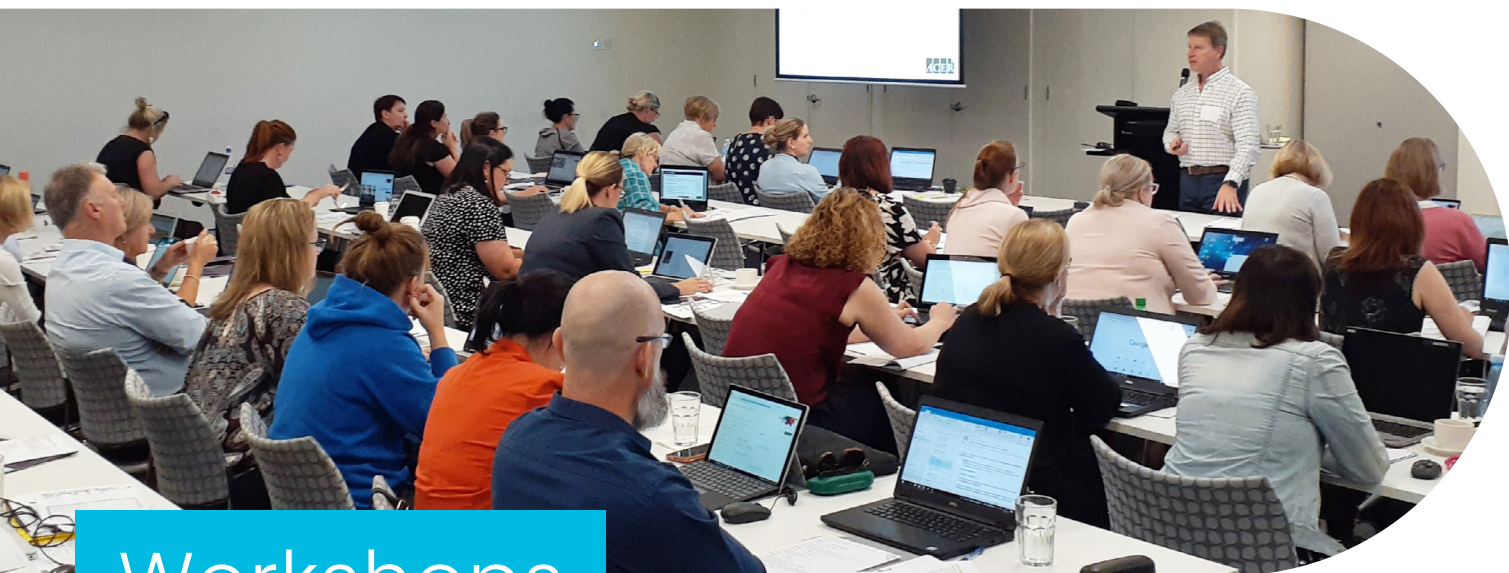## ACER's **School Engagement** Events 2024

Contents

Workshops

Understanding PAT Progressive Achievement workshops

Description

This workshop is designed for educators who want to develop their knowledge and understanding of PAT and the Progressive Achievement approach. It provides an overview of PAT implementation in the Maths and Reading domains, from accessing student data to identifying students' next steps in their learning, in a range of school environments.

In this highly practical workshop, you will learn how to analyse student assessment data effectively to determine their understanding of key skills and concepts and identify their teaching and learning needs. It is highly recommended that you arrange access to the data in your school's online (OARS) account for use in this session to make the learning as relevant and realistic as possible.

Every step of the PAT assessment process will be covered, from tutorials and investigation tasks demonstrating how to access student data, to case studies illustrating simple reporting and data interrogation methods that will help you link data with teaching practice.

The evidence-based, holistic Progressive Achievement approach helps educators monitor student growth and target teaching where it is needed most, and the Understanding PAT workshop will show you how to get the most from your PAT data.

Recommended prior learning

No prior PAT professional learning is required. It is highly recommended that attendees organise access to the data in their school's online (OARS) account for this session.

Intended learning outcomes

Participants will learn to:

- better understand the Progressive Achievement approach
- effectively implement PAT
- interrogate PAT data through reports
- monitor student growth and use PAT to identify next steps in students' learning.

Intended audience

Aimed at educators who are keen to develop and further their knowledge and understanding of PAT, ideally those responsible for administering or reporting on PAT assessments, or for implementing teaching and learning strategies informed by assessment results.

Cost

$440.00 incl. GST (per person)

For more information, please contact school.engagement@acer.org

Understanding PAT Progressive Achievement workshops

Event	Location	Date	Time	Presenters	Registration link
TERM 1					
Melbourne workshop	ACER, 19 Prospect Hill Rd, Camberwell, 3124	**Thursday 22 February 2024**	**9am – 3pm**	Matt Bongetti Daniel O'Loughlin	acer.ac/2024melb22
Melbourne workshop	ACER, 19 Prospect Hill Rd, Camberwell, 3124	**Tuesday 27 February 2024**	**9am – 3pm**	Matt Bongetti Daniel O'Loughlin	acer.ac/2024melb27
Online workshop	Online via Zoom	**Thursday 29 February 2024**	**9am – 3pm**	Matt Bongetti Daniel O'Loughlin Marc Kralj	acer.ac/2024online29
TERM 2					
Sydney workshop	ACER, 1/140 Bourke Rd, Alexandria, 2015	**Tuesday 4 June 2024**	**9am – 3pm**	Daniel O'Loughlin Marc Kralj	acer.ac/2024sydney4
Sydney workshop	ACER, 1/140 Bourke Rd, Alexandria, 2015	**Wednesday 5 June 2024**	**9am – 3pm**	Daniel O'Loughlin Marc Kralj	acer.ac/2024sydney5
Online workshop	Online via Zoom	**Thursday 13 June 2024**	**9am – 3pm**	Daniel O'Loughlin Marc Kralj	acer.ac/2024online13
TERM 3					
Brisbane workshop	Queensland Multicultural Centre 102 Main Street, Kangaroo Point, 4169	**Tuesday 27 August 2024**	**9am – 3pm**	Marc Kralj Matt Bongetti	acer.ac/2024bris27
Online workshop	Online via Zoom	**Thursday 12 September 2024**	**9am – 3pm**	Matt Bongetti Daniel O'Loughlin Marc Kralj	acer.ac/2024online12
TERM 4					
Perth workshop	DoubleTree by Hilton Perth Northbridge, 100 James St, 6003	**Tuesday 29 October 2024**	**9am – 3pm**	Matt Bongetti Daniel O'Loughlin Marc Kralj	acer.ac/2024perth29
Perth workshop	DoubleTree by Hilton Perth Northbridge, 100 James St, 6003	**Wednesday 30 October 2024**	**9am – 3pm**	Matt Bongetti Daniel O'Loughlin Marc Kralj	acer.ac/2024perth30
Darwin workshop	Oaks Darwin Elan Hotel, 31 Woods St, Darwin City, 0800	**Tuesday 12 November 2024**	**9am – 3pm**	Matt Bongetti Daniel O'Loughlin Marc Kralj	acer.ac/2024darwin12
Darwin workshop	Oaks Darwin Elan Hotel, 31 Woods St, Darwin City, 0800	**Wednesday 13 November 2024**	**9am – 3pm**	Matt Bongetti Daniel O'Loughlin Marc Kralj	acer.ac/2024darwin13
Melbourne workshop	ACER, 19 Prospect Hill Rd, Camberwell, 3124	**Tuesday 26 November 2024**	**9am – 3pm**	Matt Bongetti Daniel O'Loughlin	acer.ac/2024melb26
Online workshop	Online via Zoom	**Thursday 28 November 2024**	**9am – 3pm**	Matt Bongetti Daniel O'Loughlin Marc Kralj	acer.ac/2024online28

For more information, please contact school.engagement@acer.org

Video conferences / School visits

Intended audience

Aimed at educators who are keen to develop and further their knowledge and understanding of PAT or ACER assessments. Ideally those responsible for administering or reporting on assessments, or for implementing teaching and learning strategies informed by assessment results.

Initial consultation (20-minute video conferences)

- Chat about PAT
- Chat about other ACER assessments

Extended consultation topics (90 minutes)

- PAT overview
- Understanding PAT Adaptive
- Interrogating PAT reports
- Monitoring PAT learning growth

Workshops

- Half-day workshop (*3 hours*)
- Full-day workshop (*6 hours*)

Registration fees

- Initial 20-minute consultation – Free
- Single 90-minute video conference – $680.00 inc. GST
- Half-day (3 hours) workshop – $1350.00 inc. GST [*per ACER presenter*]
- Full-day (6 hours) workshop – $2680.00 inc. GST [*per ACER presenter*]

All face-to-face school visits will incur travel & accommodation costs in addition to the initial registration fees.

These sessions are priced for individual schools, for more information about group, system, network, or multiple school bookings, please contact the **school.engagement@acer.org** *team.*

Please note: For workshop sessions of more than 25 attendees, two ACER presenters are required.

Registration

The half-day and full-day workshops are tailored for each school and cover content from the various sessions. Staff can ask questions and have discussion with colleagues while looking at their school data in real time, as well as have an ACER presenter available to answer any questions or assist in identifying areas of development in their data.

Please contact school.engagement@acer.org to register, discuss dates or for further information.

Webinars

PAT: Unpacking PAT – Progressive Achievement for new teachers

Wednesday 14 February
4.00 pm AEDT (30 minutes)

Presenters
Matt Bongetti and Alex Gates

Registration link
acer.ac/unpackingpat

This session is designed to assist new teachers who are unfamiliar with PAT. Throughout the session we will unpack the Progressive Achievement approach and look at some recommendations around administering the PAT assessments. We will also complete a live demonstration of the account showing new teachers how to effectively navigate the account including where to generate and view reports.

Classroom strategies – Modelling the PAT Teaching Resources Centre content

Wednesday 21 February
4.00 pm AEDT (30 minutes)

Presenters
Marc Kralj and Jana Gabriel

Registration link
acer.ac/classroomstrategies

This session is for schools who currently have or are considering using the PAT Teaching Resources Centre. We will model effective practice of identifying student needs within reports, and how to locate relevant activities to support the identified student needs. We will also talk about grouping students of similar abilities, differentiated learning, targeted and individual student support and model how teaching activities can be used in the classroom. The session will include a live demonstration of the PAT Teaching Resources Centre and will feature ways to access different levelled teaching activities.

Q&A with Helen Timperley, author of *Leading Professional Conversations*

Wednesday 28 February
4.15 pm AEDT (45 minutes)

Presenters
Daniel O'Loughlin and Kimberley Veart

Registration link
acer.ac/timperley

Drawing from Helen Timperley's new professional resource for school leaders, this Q&A will focus on how school leaders can promote deep professional learning and genuine improvement practices through their conversations with teachers to enhance outcomes for every student.

Predicting scale score gain – A study into PAT Reading and PAT Maths scale scores

Wednesday 13 March
4.00 pm AEDT (30 minutes)

Presenters
Daniel O'Loughlin and Toby Newton

Registration link
acer.ac/scalescores

In this session we will explore a recent study conducted by ACER that modelled the relationship between student year level, scale score starting point ('prior score'), and time between assessments. The intended result of the study was the production of a set of scale score gain predictions based on varying year level and scale score starting points.

We will show how future predicted gain can be viewed and interpreted in the ACER Data Explorer, including how to understand the scale score gain a student is predicted to achieve over the next 12 months and comparing a student's most recent achievement against their previously predicted achievement.

Webinars

Coping, Resilience and Fortitude: Supporting Adolescents in Schools

Session moved to Term 3

Thursday 29 August
4.00 pm AEST (45 minutes)

Presenters
Erica Frydenberg and Eirini Lammi

Registration link
acer.ac/unpackingacs

Stress and coping are arguably one of the most widely researched areas in the field of psychology. From the key foundational researchers in the field of coping there has been a positive focus on how we build our interpersonal resources to cope life in good times and in bad. But there is more to life than just what we do to manage circumstances thus the concept of fortitude adds value and meaning.

This presentation will address the relationship between coping, resilience, and fortitude and how these concepts can be readily translated to provide a resource for educational leaders, teachers, and students to contribute to the wellbeing and thriving of individuals and the community at large.

Whether we are resilient or not is generally an external judgement, so it is helpful to go beyond the concept of resilience. When it comes to resilience there tends to be an emphasis on adversity, but switching this to include talk about health, wellbeing and capacity to flourish is helpful. Hence, the aspect of resilience that focuses on growth enables us to increase our capacity to deal with whatever comes our way.

Preparing staff and students for assessments

Wednesday 22 May
4.00 pm AEST (30 minutes)

Presenters
Marc Kralj and Daniel O'Loughlin

Registration link
acer.ac/assessmentprep

This session is going to give general assessment advice and recommendations for both staff and students. This advice will focus on the preparation tasks and communication required and how to set up an effective assessment policy to prepare staff and students for any assessment. We will discuss different recommendations throughout the entire testing process including prior to testing, during the testing period and post testing.

Using PAT data to target, group and identify student learning

Wednesday 29 May
4.00 pm AEST (30 minutes)

Presenters
Marc Kralj and Daniel O'Loughlin

Registration link
acer.ac/patdata

Interrogating your PAT data is a staple of our Progressive Achievement Approach. In this session we will outline how to target the needs of students by identifying their strengths, weaknesses and gaps within the PAT results data. We will present best practice advice and recommendations on how to interpret the results to inform teaching and learning.

Unpacking ACER's Adolescent Coping Scale for Schools

Wednesday 12 June
4.00 pm AEST (45 minutes)

Presenters
Daniel O'Loughlin and Eirini Lammi

Registration link
acer.ac/frydenbergchat

Coping can be defined as a set of cognitive and affective actions that arise in response to a particular concern. The Adolescent Coping Scale for Schools. (ACS-S) is an important research and educational instrument designed to support young people examine their own coping strategies. The ACS-S is a 60-item self-report inventory that is useful for identifying a student's resilience profile and for facilitating the development of coping strategies. The ACS-S measures how adolescents cope with either general concerns or a specific concern.

This session will outline the key features of ACER's updated online edition Adolescent Coping Scale for schools. The session aims to help educators understand how adolescents rate the usage and helpfulness of 20 evidence-based coping strategies and gain insight into student's coping profiles.

Webinars

Understanding and making comparisons using PAT norm data

Wednesday 7 August
4.00 pm AEST (30 minutes)

Presenters
Daniel O'Loughlin and Matt Bongetti

Registration link
acer.ac/patnorms

The PAT norms help teachers to better understand where their students are in comparison to other students from around Australia.

In this session we will be looking at the how to understand and use the PAT norm data. We will show you the different reports available to make comparisons to the norms, along with where you can access information to help in better understanding the norms and how they are collated including: norm weighting, achievement, and metrics (percentiles and stanines).

Analysing data using ACER's Bands, Group and Student reports (Linear assessments)

Tuesday 17 September
4.00 pm AEST (30 minutes)

Presenters
Matt Bongetti and Alex Gates

Registration link
acer.ac/lineardata

In this session we will highlight the PAT Bands, Group, Individual and Longitudinal reports used to report results from our linear assessments (PAT Maths 4th Edition, PAT Reading 5th Edition, etc.). These reports can be used to understand students' achievement and observe learning progress. Teachers can identify starting points, key trends and how to use data and resources to inform classroom decisions.

The session will cover how to identify strengths, weaknesses and/or gaps across a class, cohort, or whole school level and how trends can appear within these diverse groups.

Analysing data using ACER's Data Explorer (Adaptive assessments)

Wednesday 18 September
4.00 pm AEST (30 minutes)

Presenters
Matt Bongetti and Alex Gates

Registration link
acer.ac/adaptivedata

In this session we will highlight the ACER Data Explorer including the Achievement, Student, Item Performance and Progress reports used to report results from our PAT Maths Adaptive and PAT Reading Adaptive assessments. These reports can be used to understand students' achievement and observe learning progress. Teachers can identify starting points, key trends and how to use data and resources to inform classroom decisions.

The session will cover how to identify strengths, weaknesses and/or gaps across a class, cohort, or whole school level and how trends can appear within these diverse groups.

Webinars

Term 4 2024

Q&A – All about PAT

Wednesday 23 October
4.00 pm AEDT (30 minutes)

Presenters
Daniel O'Loughlin and Marc Kralj

Registration link
acer.ac/allaboutpat

In this session, ACER's School Engagement team will answer questions and discuss effective practice on all things PAT. Engage in this session to see how different schools are using the assessment and allow us to expand on some of the more frequently asked questions ranging from testing recommendations to the best reports to inform teaching and learning.

Tracking the growth of student achievement

Wednesday 6 November
4.00 pm AEDT (30 minutes)

Presenters
Daniel O'Loughlin and Matt Bongetti

Registration link
acer.ac/achievementgrowth

In this session we will look at distinct types of growth and how to identify these within the PAT reports. We will also discuss and show different comparisons that can be made between your students and the norm data.

You can observe student learning growth using the scale scores and achievement bands from multiple assessment periods within the same domain or learning area.

Understanding and interpreting data from abstract, kinetic, conceptual, and critical reasoning assessments

Wednesday 4 December
4.00 pm AEDT (30 minutes)

Presenters
Daniel O'Loughlin and Marc Kralj

Registration link
acer.ac/reasoningdata

We will discuss various aspects of critical reasoning assessments and how we can locate and interrogate the data. We will explore what an assessment of critical reasoning skills tells us and the benefit of finding out about student proficiency in abstract, kinetic, conceptual, and/or critical reasoning skills. We will explore how to unpack this information and make use of it as leaders and teachers in schools.

General webinar feedback & topic requests

Please complete the following form to submit feedback relating to our webinar program or to request a webinar related to a specific topic or content to the School Engagement team.
acer.ac/webinarfeedback

General ACER and assessment feedback
acer.ac/generalfeedback

Our Team

Matt Bongetti
Senior Project Officer

Matt Bongetti is a former primary school teacher whose role at ACER is to aid and support schools and systems in their use of online assessments. Matt has the unique perspective of seeing both sides of PAT, having delivered PAT tests as a teacher and now working with schools. His work as part of the School Engagement team involves developing and delivering content to schools through school visits, video conferences, webinars, and workshops.

Alex Gates
Customer Support Officer

Before joining ACER in 2021, Alex worked in as a primary school teacher, which gave him valuable insight into the current educational landscape and the challenges faced by both teachers and learners alike.

His favourite part of his role in the School Engagement team is providing a sense of clarity to teachers and helping them to understand the many products and services offered by ACER. He also enjoys helping to produce 'Improving Learning with ACER', a podcast aimed at helping educators to make data-informed decisions in their practice.

Daniel O'Loughlin
Project Director

Daniel O'Loughlin is a former primary and secondary school teacher whose role at ACER is to aid and support schools and systems in their use of assessment. Daniel was seconded to ACER UK in 2017, where he developed and launched the Scottish National Standardised Assessments in collaboration with Education Scotland and the Scottish Government. Daniel has developed the ACER online webinar series and delivers presentations and workshops on ACER products such as the Progressive Achievement (PAT) suite. Daniel is currently the project director of the School Engagement team in ACER's school assessment services.

Marc Kralj
Education Consultant

Marc Kralj is the Educational Consultant for ACER's School Assessment Services Unit. The focus of Marc's work is to support school leaders and teaching staff to implement ACER's Progressive Achievement approach using PAT. Before joining ACER, Marc held a range of different positions within the government education sector (Department for Education, South Australia) for over thirty years. Marc has a deep understanding of the implementation of assessment strategies, moderation and reporting, curriculum content and learning design. He has extensive knowledge in using data and evidence to support teachers in developing a deeper understanding to inform teaching and learning practices in and across a school context. He has held several leadership roles that specifically supported the Australian Curriculum, special needs programs, assessment and reporting, information technology and school data analysis.

Alicia Wale
Senior Project Officer

Alicia has worked for ACER in the schools assessment area for almost four years helping teachers and schools through the OARS helpdesk. She now also works in School Engagement, both face-to-face and through video consultations, assisting schools to identify strengths, weaknesses and gaps to inform teaching and learning practices.

For many years Alicia worked as a curator of fine art, which eventually led to a role where she facilitated arts learning programs at a community centre in Melbourne. This role furthered her interest in education and gave her valuable experience for the work that she also does at ACER facilitating online courses for understanding PAT and data analysis. Her favourite part of working at ACER is helping teachers and school staff with the important role they have in educating students

Contact Us

School Engagement Team
✉ school.engagement@acer.org

ACER online assessment support team
📞 1300 006 577
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