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**PRESENTS**

# Q Conversation

## Collaborative Use of Research in Practice

 @MonashQProject @MonashEducation

#QURE #UsingEvidenceBetter #researchinaction



# Acknowledgement of Country

I would like to acknowledge the lands on which we all meet today and recognise that sovereignty was never ceded.

I would like to specifically acknowledge that the Wurundjeri and Boon Wurrung people, communities of the Kulin Nation, are the ongoing custodians of the lands on which Monash University now stands.

We pay our respects through our research, teaching and learning to the Wurundjeri and Boon Wurrung Elders and their past, present and future communities.

## What is the Q Project?

MONASH Q PROJECT  
'Using Evidence  
Better'

The ***Q Project*** is a 5-year initiative focused specifically on the issue of quality use of research evidence. A partnership between Monash University and the Paul Ramsay Foundation, it involves close collaboration with teachers, school leaders, policy-makers, researchers, research brokers and other key stakeholders across Australia.

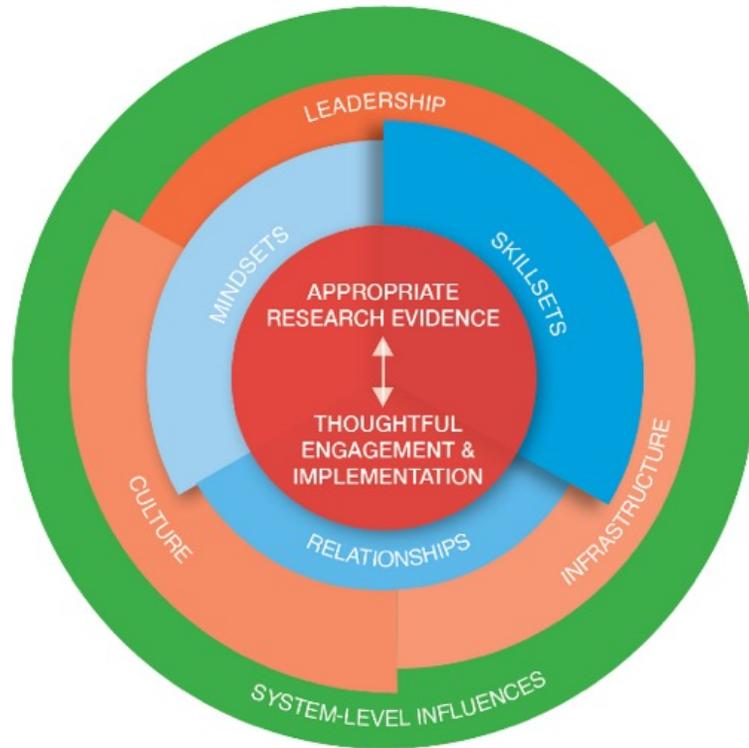
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During 2019-2020, a framework of *quality use of research evidence* – **QURE** – was conceptualised.

Quality use of research is defined as '***the thoughtful engagement with and implementation of appropriate research evidence, supported by a blend of individual and organisational enabling components within a complex system***'.

Two core components highlight the need for research evidence to be appropriate and for engagement and implementation to be thoughtful.

Quality use also depends on a blend of individual and organisational enabling components, as well as system-level influences.



During March – September 2020, 492 educators from 414 schools across NSW, SA, VIC and QLD completed Monash Q Project's first survey. Schools included primary, secondary, combined and special schools from government, independent and Catholic education sectors. 29 of these educators participated in follow-up online interviews.

Both research activities focused on understanding how Australian educators find and use research and evidence, including:

- the types of research and evidence that they value;
- how and why they source different kinds of evidence;
- whether and how they use research within their practice; and
- what they believe 'using research well' in practice means.

Findings from the survey are reported here -

<https://www.monash.edu/education/research/projects/qproject/publications>

## Collaborative Use of Research in Practice

**Q Conversation** is a resource designed for school practitioners to promote discussion and reflection about research use attitudes and practices, using Q's emerging findings and considerations as prompts.

The second theme emerging from Q's findings involves how practitioners use research and evidence in social and relational ways.

This **Q Conversation** theme draws on 3 different Q publications:

- **Q Data Insight** – summary of key findings
- **Q Narrative** – narrative profile of practitioners (Penny and Julie from Dalby State School, Queensland)
- **Q Behavioural Insight** – discussion of key social and relational factors that influence research use behaviours

# Choice of Three Conversation Structures

A short & sharp conversation, drawing on the **Q Narrative**, to reflect on a school and/or team's research use approaches and behaviours. Insights gained may inform future research and evidence use practices.

A deeper conversation, drawing on the **Q Data Insight** focused on the social and relational ways in which educators use research. Insights gained may inform how networks and relationships can be developed and leveraged, and how collaborative learning and team discussions can be improved within the school to assist staff use research better in practice.

A deep conversation, drawing on complementary research and the **Q Behavioural Insight**, to reflect on collaborative behaviours and leadership that both facilitate and hinder effective research use within the school.

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**Share your experiences and school insights  
generated from *Q Conversations* with us.**

**If you would like to learn more about Q Project or  
participate in our 2021 research, please connect  
with us at:**

<https://www.monash.edu/education/research/projects/qproject>

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