

Step Up Into Teaching (SUIT)



Campus

Strathfield

Program dates

EDEZ100: Wednesday 8th July -
Wednesday 15th July 2026

EDEZ103: Wednesday 13th January -
Wednesday 20th January 2027

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**Sydney
Catholic
Schools**

WHAT IS STEP UP INTO TEACHING?

SUIT is an Australian Catholic University (ACU) early entry program approved by NSW Education Standards Authority. It provides high school students considering a career in teaching the opportunity to experience learning in a university environment.

In the 2026–2027 SUIT program, high school students will have the opportunity to study two university level units while completing their school studies.

RECEIVING YOUR PLACE AT ACU

Students who pass **two (2) SUIT units** of study will be given a direct conditional offer in to a Bachelor of Education degree at ACU (provided prerequisites are met).

Offers are normally made before the TAC offer rounds.

THE BENEFITS OF TAKING PART IN SUIT

- Studying university subjects through the SUIT program is HECS free.
- Once enrolled in a teaching degree at ACU, you will receive credit (recognition of prior learning) for specified units in our early childhood, primary and secondary teaching courses.
- You'll be making an early move towards building a career through a vocational pathway, putting you ahead right from the start.
- You'll get to experience studying at a university, taking you out of your usual school environment.
- Getting a taste of uni life now, will help make the transition to university after high school much easier.
- Gaining an understanding of the many student services available to you as you enter university life will help keep you focused and achieving to your potential.



SCAN TO WATCH RECENT STUDENTS REFLECT ON THE EXPERIENCE WITHIN THE PROGRAM:



Video courtesy of Catholic Schools Parramatta Diocese (CSPD)

Step Up Into Teaching

PROGRAM DELIVERY

The SUIT program is delivered by ACU academics on our beautiful Strathfield campus to give you that real feel of university. Our Academic Skills team and our library support staff will also be on hand for additional support if you need it.

- Classes are held during school holidays.
- The program will be held in July 2026 and January 2027.
- Each subject requires 6 days on-campus attendance.
- On campus attendance each day is mandatory.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY IN SUIT?

Understanding Learning and Teaching EDEZ100 (Wednesday 8th July - Wednesday 15th July 2026)

This unit encourages students to think critically about their own conceptions of learning and teaching. Emphasis is placed on understanding the multiple ways of knowing as well as the multiple ways in which all learners can represent and organise knowledge.

Understanding Learners and their Contexts EDEZ103 (Wednesday 13th January - Wednesday 20th January 2027)

This unit provides an exploration into the varied contexts that influence learning, focusing on the impact of sociocultural diversity and educational policies in Australia. It aims to equip students with the skills to foster inclusive learning environments through critical analysis and strategic planning.

THESE UNITS CAN LEAD TO:

Primary Teaching *

- Bachelor of Education (Early Childhood and Primary)
- Bachelor of Education (Primary)
- Bachelor of Education (Primary and Special Education)
- Bachelor of Education (Primary and Secondary)

Secondary Teaching**

- Bachelor of Education (Secondary)

* NESA BAND 4 MATHEMATICS REQUIREMENT

For students entering University from 2023 on.

From 2023 onwards, all pre-service teachers entering any of the Primary suite of programs listed above need to have at least a Band 4 HSC result in Mathematics.

If you have not studied Mathematics or your result in Mathematics is below Band 4, then you will need to complete and pass a Mathematics unit in your first year upon entering ACU.

** Selection of secondary teaching areas may be subject to study of relevant HSC subject pre-requisites.

WHERE TO FIND OUT MORE DETAILS ONLINE

Use the following link or QR code to check out what is on offer: <https://www.acu.edu.au/study-at-acu/find-a-course/teaching>

This link will take you to the ACU website location where you will be able to read about our Teacher Education programs in more depth and find out which ones are available at our Strathfield, Blacktown and North Sydney Campuses.



RESEARCH INFORMING SUIT

The SUIT program is grounded in rigorous scholarly research that supports successful school/university partnerships alongside enhancing access and achievement in higher education. The program's foundations include fostering determination among students to complete their degrees, as explored by Karimshah et al. (2013). It also emphasises the importance of recruiting and supporting high-quality, diverse candidates to undertake Initial Teacher Education (ITE) courses (Paul et al. 2021).

Furthermore, Grow Your Own (GYO) programs are shown to effectively prepare and sustain a diverse pool of 'community teachers' (pg. 46), who are deeply knowledgeable about and committed to their local schools and communities (Chu & Weems, 2024).

References:

- Chu, Y. & Weems, A.L. (2024) Preparing Community Teachers Early: Exploring Aspiring Teacher Learning and Identity Development in a Grow Your Own Program. *Action in Teacher Education*, 46(1), 38-55
- Karimshah, A., Wyder, M., Henman, P., Tay, D., Capelin, E., & Short, P. (2013). Overcoming adversity among low SES students: A study of strategies for retention. *Australian Universities' Review*, 55(2), 5-14.
- Paul, L., Loudon, W., Elliot, M., & Scott, D. (2021). *Next steps: Report of the Quality Initial Teacher Education Review*. Report prepared for the Australian Government