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UK expert talks quality teaching with SA principals

A senior figure in UK education will join the head of Australia's teaching standards body to speak about how quality teaching can improve student learning, in a presentation to 230 South Australian school leaders today.

Mr Graham Herbert, former director of the UK's Chartered Institute of Educational Assessors (CIEA), and Ms Margery Evans, CEO of the Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership (AITSL), will speak about professional standards in teaching and assessment.

Mr Herbert said he was interested to learn more about teaching and educational assessment standards in South Australia.

"When we started to set up the Institute in the UK almost a decade ago, it was really the first of its kind in the world," Mr Herbert said.

"In South Australia, you already have a strong focus on quality teaching, particularly in the assessment of student work, so you're in a much stronger position to take it to the next level.

"In meetings with teachers and education professionals over the past week, it's clear that many of the lessons that were hard-learned in the UK are well-established here, following the reforms to the SACE," he said.

Margery Evans will speak about the development of the Australian Professional Standards for Teachers, and the relationship between these standards and improved student learning.

SACE Board Chief Executive, Dr Paul Kilvert, said the visit by Mr Herbert and Ms Evans had drawn a strong response from principals and other school leaders.

"It is clear that the work teachers have done in recent years with the SACE, building their understanding of and expertise in assessing student work, has paid dividends," he said.

"We are grateful to have visitors of such high calibre to help inform our next steps along this path of quality teaching and better learning.

"Ultimately, South Australian students will be the beneficiaries of this work," he said.