



## Statement of Intent:

Ten Forward emerged from a passion to place futures thinking and positive, solutions-focused education closer to the centre of professional life - and from noticing how easily frontline insight can be lost in periods of rapid change.

We teach in a time of significant shift over a relatively short period. It is easy to become focused on what is immediately in front of us: responding to directives, meeting expectations, and keeping pace with reform. These professional responsibilities matter. At the same time, we are conscious of the risk of losing something equally important - the joy, inquiry, richness, and challenge that give the profession its depth and meaning.

Frameworks, standards, and structures have provided coherence and direction, and they continue to play an important role. But in a changing landscape, they are no longer sufficient on their own. Future-proofing the profession requires teachers to exercise agency - to interpret, connect, and lead with judgement rather than waiting for professionalism to be defined for them.

Ten Forward is interested in the space where agency and professionalism meet. We see professionalism not as something that sits apart from instinct, but as something strengthened by it. When teachers are supported to share their insights, test ideas with others, and learn across roles and career stages, instinct can grow into influence - and influence into meaningful impact.

Our focus is on early career teachers and those in their first decade of practice, many of whom have entered the profession during upheaval and reform. These educators bring energy, insight, and a strong sense of what matters on the frontline. We are also attentive to middle leaders, who sit at a critical intersection: close enough to the classroom to feel what matters, and positioned to shape practice, culture, and direction.

Ten Forward curates professional communities and opportunities where teachers learn with and from one another, and where emerging leaders can channel frontline instinct into influence in ways that strengthen, rather than fragment, the profession. We are excited by the possibility of an ecosystem grounded in trust, connection, and shared responsibility - where professionalism is lived, relational, and continually renewed.

