

## EXPLORING THE BIG PICTURE LEARNING DESIGN



The Big Picture Learning design is a profound change of approach to secondary schooling that is transforming the lives of young people with:

- **new ways** for organising school structures and culture,
- **new forms** of learning using a design that encourages students to learn both inside and outside school, and
- **new measures** for assessing students and valuing a broader range of capacities and qualities.

Becoming an Exploring School allows you to explore our design, and allows Big Picture Learning to explore your school.

# Exploring the Big Picture Learning Design

Big Picture Learning Australia (BPLA) is a national network of like-minded educators working to transform the way secondary, and occasionally primary, schooling is experienced by young people. We do not operate schools, instead we partner with schools who share this goal.

As an exploring school, you do not need to be ready to commit to implementing the Big Picture Learning Design, merely curious to explore how it works. Big Picture Learning Australia responds to interest, one school at a time. We will work with you to help you envisage the possibilities for the young people in your school community.

Then, once the exploring phase is over, together we can decide if we would like to continue collaborating to bring about positive change.

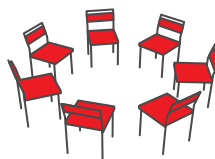
## Key tenets of the design are around:

passion

Learning through student interest



Connecting to community and the world of work through out-learning



Wellbeing and positive relationships



New measures for assessing student success



*'I've grown massively to the point I'm at now and all of the projects that I've done have introduced new things and different skills that I can carry on into the world.'*

**BRANDON, Morisset HS**  
Interested in firefighting



*'Big Picture is a really good learning experience to try new things, look at different areas, get some feedback, figure out what I like before pursuing it as a career.'*

**HAYLEY, Tomaree HS**  
Interested in pediatrics

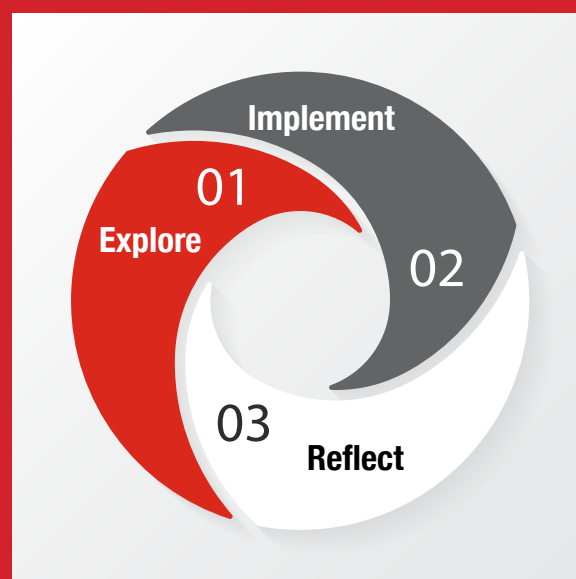
## Is the Big Picture Learning Design for your school?

The design can be implemented in either a whole school, or an academy within a school.

Introducing the design requires a long-term commitment to a journey of Exploration, Implementation and Reflection on significant changes to teacher and leader practice.

It takes time to change practice and to build the necessary structures and culture to support the work. It takes time to build alignment, coherence and leadership, and to bring the community along.

But the positive outcomes for students are the driving force.



# What does EXPLORING entail?

## Phase 1: FIRST CONTACT

● School approaches BPLA to learn more about Big Picture Learning

● First conversation between BPLA key leaders and School Principal

● School leaders attend a 2-day Exploring Schools Workshop (\$1,500)

Depends on availability. Some schools attend the Exploring Schools Workshop in Phase 2. The \$1,500 fee is refunded if the school proceeds to pay the Exploring School fee

## Phase 2: EXPLORING

● School pays \$12,000 + GST to become an Exploring School

● School becomes a member of the BPLA network for one year

● School leaders attend a 2-day Exploring Schools Workshop

(if they did not already do so in Phase 1)

● BPLA arranges and hosts 1-2 visits to an existing BPL school/academy

● School hosts 1-2 visits from BPLA team where they explore the design together through the following activities:

- BPLA gives presentations and workshops for School leadership and staff
- BPLA runs information sessions for parents and students
- BPLA provides consultations with the School team to assess readiness for uptake of the design, and to develop a plan and budget for staffing, training, facilities, recruitment and enrolment
- BPLA provides readings and resources to help School to gain a deeper understanding of the design, of implementation and of research about this work
- School can choose to participate in regular BPLA networking zooms or other professional learning events
- School can choose to send leaders and staff to Foundation Training (at an additional cost)

## Phase 3: SIGN-UP

● School and BPLA decide to continue the work together

● Memorandum of Understanding between School and BPLA is developed and signed

● A 3-year Service Agreement is negotiated and signed by School and BPLA

● A BPL School Coach works with School staff to get ready for students to begin

● Leaders and involved staff attend the next available Five-Day Foundation Training

The Exploring Fee does not cover the cost of Foundation Training

## What is a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)?

An MOU sets out the nature of the relationship between a school and BPLA. Schools are asked to commit to a minimum of two advisories when starting out.

## What is a Service Agreement?

A Service Agreement with BPLA sets out fixed costs and variable costs that cover membership, coaching services, learner kits, communications resources (print, video, web), and participation in the International Big Picture Learning Credential for senior students and the BPLA Accreditation system.



*'After seeing my first cohort of Big Picture students through graduation, I have great confidence that I did the right thing by all the kids. They all have plans. Some are at work, some are at TAFE and others are at university. That's the biggest marker of success and it takes 4 years to really nail it.'*

**Principal Mike Saxon,  
Liverpool Boys High School, Sydney NSW**



*'One of our strategic directions is about personal best learning, and that's what happens with Big Picture students. When young people are interested in what they're doing it just changes their life.'*

**Principal Jennifer Flowers,  
Five Islands Secondary College, Port Kembla NSW**

## The exploring fee is \$12,000 + GST

Contact us to start the conversation on (02) 9590 5341 or [info@bigpicture.org.au](mailto:info@bigpicture.org.au).

Together we can reinvigorate students' love of learning, help teachers to make a real difference in students' lives, and ensure that all students make successful transitions to life beyond school.

**Note: any travel and accommodation costs for BPL team visits are covered by the school.**

**Email:** [info@bigpicture.org.au](mailto:info@bigpicture.org.au)

**Web:** [www.bigpicture.org.au](http://www.bigpicture.org.au)

**Phone:** 02 9590 5341

**Mail:** PO Box 544, Strawberry Hills, NSW 2012

  
**Big Picture**  
LEARNING AUSTRALIA  
ONE STUDENT AT A TIME IN  
A COMMUNITY OF LEARNERS