

What is a teaching portfolio?

A teaching portfolio is a record of your achievements and progress as a teacher.

Why is a teaching portfolio important?

All Teach2030 courses suggest that teachers who are interested in developing their professional development could keep a teacher portfolio. We believe they are a valuable way to record your ongoing development.

When teachers select an entry for their portfolio, not only do they have to think or discuss, but they also need to write down their ideas and reflections. Reflective writing provides teachers with an opportunity to focus, organise, edit their ideas, and finally to reflect upon them in print. And, perhaps most importantly, the written documents are always available to be reviewed, and to serve as clear evidence of the teacher's thinking, reasoning, and actions.¹

The Teaching Portfolio: A Tool to Become a Reflective Teacher. Available from:

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/265538740_The_Teaching_Portfolio_A_Tool_to_Become_a_Reflective_Teacher

[accessed Nov 21 2018].

It demonstrates;

- Your own personal philosophy of teaching
- Evidence of your learning from training you have received
- Opportunities to record your self-reflection on areas of strength and those that need developing

It serves as a continuous tool to reflect, evaluate and monitor your own teaching and performance, in order to develop your teaching skills and continue to raise outcomes for the children you teach.

A suggested teaching portfolio contents structure is on the next page.

<p>1. All About Me</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Name ● School ● Grade taught ● Any key responsibilities
<p>2. My Teaching Philosophy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● What are your goals as a teacher? ● Why did you choose to become a teacher? ● Has your approach to teaching changed as your career has progressed? ● What do you feel effective teaching looks like? ● What are your preferred teaching methods or strategies and why? ● What challenges do you face when teaching?
<p>3. Workshops/Training attended</p>	<p>Keep a record of any training you have attended, including dates</p>
<p>4. Evidence of Change</p>	<p>Examples of where you have changed your teaching practice after training, research, classroom observations etc. Include sample of learners' work, lesson plans, photographs and so on if you can.</p>
<p>5. Lesson observations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Keep evidence of any lesson observations from your peers or senior leadership team ● Show how you plan to develop the areas identified
<p>6. Lesson Plans</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Examples of plans you have reflected on after teaching the lesson ● Note down where you have included new strategies or techniques
<p>7. Assessment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Keep a record of learner assessments to help you monitor their progress ● Record any assessment strategies you find effective and why ● Include examples of learners' work
<p>8. Professional Development Action Plan</p>	<p>Identify areas you would like to develop further.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● How will you do this? (peer observations / planning, research, training and so on) ● How often will you update your action plan? ● How will you monitor your own progress?
<p>9. Personal interests</p>	<p>Include articles, newspaper clippings, photographs; anything that you think is interesting and you would like to reflect on as a teacher.</p>

