## **2016 ASG National Excellence in Teaching Awards** State and Territory Award Recipient

## Anita Vague

St Simon Peter Catholic School Ocean Reef, Western Australia

Renowned for her energy and enthusiasm, Anita believes that developing trustful, respectful relationships with students should be a key focus of early childhood teaching, and that learning achievements will then follow. She strives to ensure each student feels a sense of belonging, and learns about and prioritises each child's needs in order to help them achieve their early learning goals.

Anita's classroom utilises a play-based, multisensory program in an environment designed to enrich learning. Anita also focuses on engaging parents and the community as a means of enhancing learning.

She has taught her students, and their parents, about tolerance, acceptance, understanding and empathy, leading by example in the way she works with children with special needs – with a focus on unlocking the needs of each child to discover how they learn best.

Many parents of children in her class have reported a transformation in their child's academic ability, as well as their willingness to attend school. Going forward, Anita hopes to build her knowledge of anxiety in young students, a growing focus for teachers and experts in the early childhood field, and how to best tackle it.

Position	Other responsibilities	Category	Subjects/level taught	Years teaching
Pre-Primary Teacher		Early Childhood		17
Years at this school/centre	School type	Nominated by	Town/suburb	State and postcode
12	Private	Parent	Ocean Reef	WA, 6027

## **Contact details:**

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