



# Dr. Katrina McNab

## Principal - Ulverstone Campus

*About Me!*

Dr. Katrina McNab joined the team at Leighland in 2021 and feels incredibly blessed to be working in a Christian school that values leading with innovation, is committed to personalised learning, embraces partnerships and seeks to serve. Dr. Katrina graduated from the University of Tasmania with a Bachelor of Education (Honours) and a keen interest in early childhood literacy. She has been involved with Christian education for 21 years, initially as a parent and Board member and later as a teacher. After working in Catholic and Christian schools in her early career, she returned to the University of Tasmania (UTAS) as a PhD candidate to investigate the effects of 1:1 iPad initiatives on home-school partnerships and early literacy development. During this time, Katrina also taught Academic Thinking and Writing at UTAS.

In 2015, Dr. Katrina was instrumental in launching Curiosity Headquarters, an after school Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths programme for gifted, talented and curious primary school children in grades 3-6. In 2018, the programme expanded and she launched Curiosity Headquarters Juniors for children in Prep to Year 2. In 2017, Katrina launched STEM StoryTime for preschoolers and their carers. The three STEM programmes provided opportunities for children and families from all schools to be involved. Dr. Katrina is a passionate supporter of First LEGO League and is the Techno Turtles First LEGO League robotics team coach. Katrina strongly believes advancing STEM education requires collaboration among industry, schools, teachers, students and families, and this can be a pleasurable and rewarding experience for everyone involved.

Dr. Katrina believes that education can be interesting, meaningful and inspirational when learning is connected to life, students have voice and choice, and when they are given opportunities to be active participants in their learning journey. Dr. Katrina's research and professional interests include early years and middle school education, PLCs, High Reliability Schools, data informed teaching and learning, technology in education, STEM, design thinking, project based learning (PBL), thematic learning, tinkering, home-school partnerships, and early literacy development. Dr. Katrina is excited about the future for students and staff at Leighland. She is committed to catering for the unique needs of each parent and child, igniting a passion for lifelong learning, and creating meaningful and authentic relationships between school and home.