

Called to Teach?

A reflection worksheet from Alphacrucis University College

This worksheet is designed to help you think honestly about whether teaching might be your calling. There are no right answers and no score at the end. Take your time. Be specific. The more concrete your responses, the more useful they'll be when you look back on them.

Part 1: What have you noticed?

These questions help you identify patterns in your experience that may point toward teaching.

When was the last time you helped someone understand something — and felt genuinely energised by it?

Describe the situation. Who was the person? What were you explaining? What made it feel different from other conversations?

Think of a young person you know personally. What do you wish someone had taught them that nobody has?

Be specific. What gap do you see — and why does it bother you?

Have you found yourself teaching informally — youth group, Sunday School, tutoring, mentoring, coaching, workplace training?

List the contexts. How often? What keeps you coming back?

When people describe your strengths, do words like "patient," "clear," "encouraging," or "good with people" come up?

Write down what people have actually said to you — not what you think they should say.

Part 2: What's driving the pull?

Not all motivations are equal, and that's fine. This section helps you distinguish between interest, conviction, and calling.

Why are you thinking about teaching? List every reason — practical, idealistic, financial, spiritual. Don't filter.

The honest list is the useful one.

Which of those reasons would still matter on a wet Wednesday in Term 3, with a stack of marking and a class that didn't want to be there?

Circle or underline the reasons above that would sustain you through the hard parts, not just the good parts.

Is there a specific type of student or setting you feel drawn to?

Primary? Secondary? Early childhood? A particular subject? Regional schools? Christian schools? Students who struggle? Be as specific as you can.

Part 3: Faith and vocation

These questions are optional — but if your faith is part of how you make decisions, they're worth sitting with.

When you pray about your future, does teaching come up? How? As excitement? As a quiet persistence? As something you keep trying to set aside but can't?

Describe the feeling as accurately as you can.

What would it mean for you to see the classroom as a place of ministry — not preaching, but serving, forming, caring for students as people made in God's image?

Does that idea energise you or overwhelm you? Both are useful answers.

Is there a Bible passage, story, or moment in your faith journey that connects to why you're considering teaching?

Write it down. It may help you articulate your "why" later.

Part 4: What's holding you back?

Naming the obstacles honestly is more productive than pretending they don't exist.

What's the main thing stopping you from pursuing teaching right now?

Money? Time? Confidence? Family commitments? Uncertainty? Fear of failure? Something else?

For each obstacle you've named: is it a permanent barrier or a problem that could be solved with the right information?

For example: "I can't afford it" might be solved by a Commonwealth Supported Place (which reduces fees by ~77%). "I don't have Year 12" might be solved by provisional entry for over-21s.

Part 5: Your next step

You don't need to decide today. But you do need a next step — even a small one.

Based on what you've written, which ONE action will you take this week?

- Talk to a teacher I know and ask them what a typical week looks like
- Volunteer in a school, youth group, or tutoring context to test the pull
- Look at the education courses at ac.edu.au/study/education/
- Check my CSP eligibility at ac.edu.au/future-students/csps-and-scholarship-information/
- Call the Alphacrucis Future Students team on 1300 228 355
- Talk to my pastor, mentor, or a trusted friend about what I've been feeling
- Sit with it for another month — and set a reminder to revisit this worksheet

Something else I want to do:

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