

Dr Ben Jensen CEO, Learning First



Ben founded Learning First in 2014. He has advised numerous education systems in Australia and around the world on education strategy and implementation, school and system reform that continuously improves teaching and learning. This has covered various aspects of education reform, including school improvement, teacher and leader development, curriculum reform, and data, evaluation and accountability systems.

Ben's publications include [Preparing to Lead](#), [Beyond PD](#) and [Not So Elementary](#) that have received international attention and changed policy in a number of systems. He and all Learning First staff apply lessons from international research to reform in local contexts.

Ben has worked with numerous organisations over a number of years. He has been an adviser to the Aspen Institute's Urban District Leadership Network, the Victorian Minister's Expert Advisory Group, the NSW Education Statistics and Evaluation Advisory Committee, the Independent Schools Queensland Leadership advisory group and the Education Committee of the Myer Foundation. He has served on the Australian Government Teacher Education Ministerial Advisory Group and on OECD expert groups for their Program of International Assessment (PISA) and the Teaching and Learning International Survey (TALIS).

Before founding Learning First, Ben was Director of the School Education Program at the Grattan Institute, Australia's leading independent policy think tank, where he wrote the influential report, *Catching up: learning from the best school systems in East Asia*. He also spent five years at the OECD, where he conducted international research on education policy and school and teacher effectiveness. Ben has a PhD in Economics from the University of Melbourne.

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Ben's blog: <https://learningfirst.com/blog/>