



**EQUITABLE  
EXCELLENCE**  
EMPOWERED BY  
COLLECTIVE AGENCY



## **2026 SASPA Conference: Kaynote Day 1**

### **Professor Sandra Milligan presenting New metrics for success in learning**

Professor Sandra Milligan leads a number of national and international Research -Practice Partnerships at the University of Melbourne (UoM), including the New Metrics Partnerships, credentialing with Big Picture Australia and an ARC Linkage project 'Matching for Success' in which SACE and SATAC are key partners. The work centres on defining more broadly what we mean by success in schools, and how to better measure it, so that all students are equipped to thrive at school and beyond in a tech-rich, changing environment. Essentially this means ensuring that students develop the skills, attitudes, values and beliefs that enable them to become drivers of their own learning rather than just consumers of teaching. This change, when it occurs, is transformative for schools, teacher and learners alike. The work has involving huge effort in over a hundred of pioneer research schools to change assessment practices to support the changes schools are implementing, involving thousands of teachers and tens of thousands of students generating millions of assessments, and now with credentials issued to over 3000 students. In this presentation Sandra will explore a range of question that are confronting leaders in UoM's first-mover partner schools, and share some of their thinking. Topics might include: Why are so many schools now working on this, and what is in it for them? What successes have been seen in these schools and what challenges remain? What do these learning competencies mean for subject specialists in schools? Is there a trade-off between ATAR scores and developing transferable learning competencies? What about the workload for overburdened staff? What is the best response to AI in assessment?