

[Education](#) > [Regions](#) > [Victoria](#)

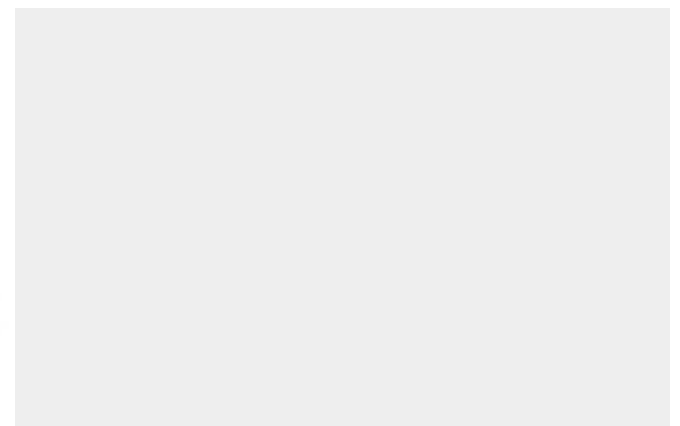
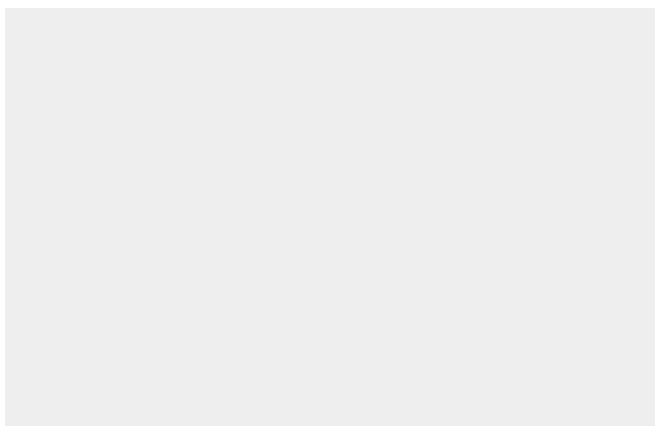
FULL LIST

Meet the new principals at Victoria's public and private schools for 2026

More than 15 new principals have taken the helm at Victorian schools this year, bringing fresh leadership and innovative approaches to education across the state. Meet them here.

Rebecca Borg and Amelia Swan 24 min read February 5, 2026 - 7:58AM**Herald Sun**
We're for you. **4 Comments**

Figen Mustafa – Meadows Primary School



Figen Mustafa – Meadows Primary School. Picture: Supplied

Previous experience: 2025 – Meadows Primary Acting Principal, 2020-2024 Thomastown Meadows Primary Assistant Principal, 2016-2020 Reservoir Views PS leading teacher, and various other teaching and department jobs between 1994 and 2019.

Looking forward to: In 2026, I am most looking forward to seeing our school community grow in confidence, connection, and size, welcoming more families who want to be part of the vibrant, supportive learning environment we are building. I'm excited to see students learning in our new STEM lab and Art Studio, families gathering in a revitalised Community Welcome Area, and a stable, high-quality staff team working together to deliver strong learning and wellbeing outcomes. We are also looking forward to building stronger connections with our wider community through our onsite Community Hub, creating more opportunities for collaboration and support with the establishment of a Parents and Friends and Dads/Dad Figures Group. We are very excited to further developing closer partnership opportunities with our onsite kindergarten, with younger students working closely with student buddies. Our renewed full-size library will provide a dedicated space to inspire curiosity, creativity, and a love of learning across all year levels. Most of all, I'm looking forward to seeing our students thrive – feeling safe, supported, and proud of their school.

Biggest challenge for 2026: One of the key challenges I am leaning into is guiding the school into a healthy financial position while building a strong and sustainable future. The school is currently undergoing a significant transformation aligned to a new four-year strategic plan, which provides a clear and shared direction for growth. Central to this work is stabilising staffing by attracting and retaining high-quality teachers and dedicated Education Support staff, as strong people create strong schools. Alongside this, we are creating inspiring learning environments, including a new STEM lab, an art studio, and the modernisation of our Community Welcome Area where families gather daily. By strengthening our people, our spaces, and our systems, we aim to improve whole-school data and ensure positive learning and wellbeing outcomes for every student.

Likes: Gardening including growing vegetables and Cooking traditional Turkish meals.

Dislikes: I dislike when adult agendas overshadow what is best for children, as my core value is always to place student wellbeing and learning at the heart of every decision.