



Grandschools

Intergenerational Learning and Living Communities

A National Health and Medical Research Council supported research project 2020-2025

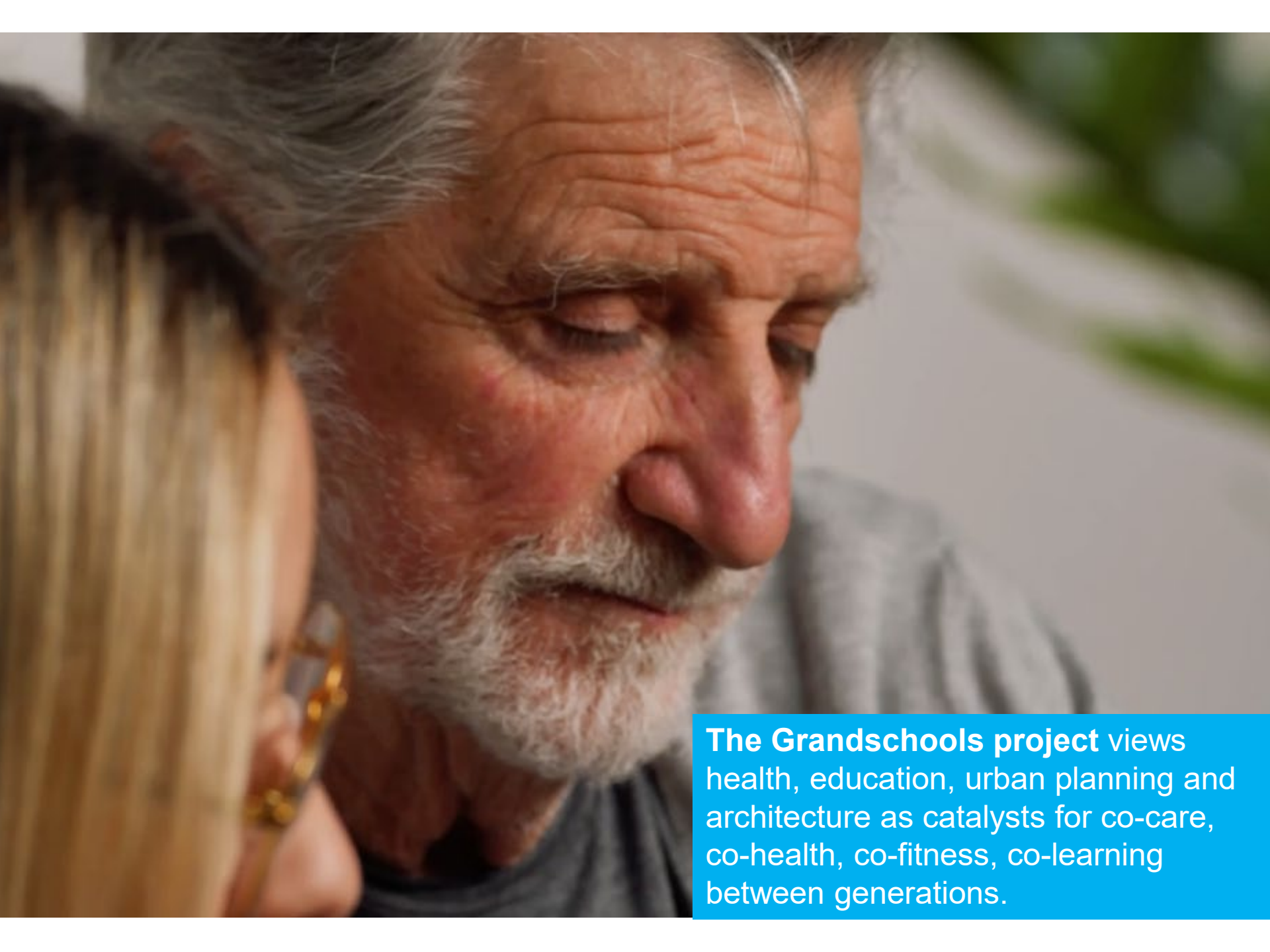
Dovetree Aged Care Community, Sinnamon Park QLD
Image: Scott Burrows Photographer ©

The Grandschools Team



\$1.15 million NHMRC interdisciplinary research project embedded into PhD projects and university curriculum across healthy programs, landscapes and built-environment





The Grandschools project views health, education, urban planning and architecture as catalysts for co-care, co-health, co-fitness, co-learning between generations.

The aim is to benefit health, wellbeing and continued engagement of youth and seniors through connected sites.

Where youth can develop supportive relationships, build community and vocational skills through inclusive programs and social enterprise and where seniors can age in place while actively participating in community life.

The opportunity is to develop models of education and senior living zones which integrates healthy facilities and programs, shared by the old and young alike.



Anna Earl courtesy Unsplash

Grand schools

A model which **differs from existing programs** through a policy driven '**shared campus facilities and services**' approach that is relationship centered and socially inclusive.

A microcosm to deepen relationships, connectivity, and understanding between generations and increasing social opportunities and skills for seniors and youth alike.

Responds to **urgent national workforce development needs** and health training demand in senior sectors by providing an integrated model for school based vocational pathways for youth in co-located settings.

Translatable across diverse Australian contexts, from urban realms where land is limited, and regionally, where closer engagement between generations will maintain social networks.

Incrementally refined and economically evaluated which seeks to contextualize the risks, impediments and benefits of co-situated senior living/educational settings.





Strategic Plan

2021–2025

Current from March 2021

Our vision is for Queenslanders to be safe and thriving in families, communities and culture.

Our department supports children, young people and their families to be safe and to thrive in culture and communities.

 <p>Enable the safety, belonging and wellbeing of children and young people, especially those in or leaving care, and enable their voices to be heard and to contribute to their community.</p>	 <p>Reduce recidivism and improve social, economic and civic participation for children and young people through holding children and young people to account for their offending behaviour.</p>	 <p>Implement, influence and invest in policies, programs and services that support and empower Queenslanders from culturally diverse backgrounds to build community connectedness.</p>	 <p>Value, support and improve the safety, wellbeing and capability of our staff.</p>
<p>This objective contributes to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safeguarding our health • Supporting jobs • Growing our regions • Investing in skills • Backing our frontline services <p>Our strategy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will work with parents, families, carers and communities to make sure children, especially children in care, are safe, cared for and thriving. • We will work with communities and our partners to enable vulnerable young people to strengthen their relationships with families and support networks. <p>Our performance indicators</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce child abuse and neglect. • Improve outcomes for, and wellbeing of, vulnerable young people, and children in or at risk of entering the child protection system. • Reduce the disproportionate representation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in the child protection system. 	<p>This objective contributes to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting jobs • Growing our regions • Investing in skills • Backing our frontline services. <p>Our strategy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will support young people to be accountable for their role and behaviour, and link them and their families to wellbeing, health and education services. • We will focus on underlying issues that lead to offending behaviour, and deliver evidence based interventions and programs for young people who are repeat offenders. <p>Our performance indicators</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce the rate of offending and re-offending. • Reduce the disproportionate representation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young peoples in the youth justice system. 	<p>This objective contributes to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investing in skills • Growing our regions • Supporting jobs • Backing our frontline services. <p>Our strategy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will work with diverse cultural communities, sector partners and Government agencies to implement policies that support fair and accessible services for all. • Facilitate and deliver collaborative projects and programs to: address systemic barriers to the full inclusion and participation of people from migrant or refugee backgrounds that persist in Queensland, including skill utilisation, attraction to regional areas, representation on Government boards, and equitable access to culturally responsive and inclusive government and service systems; and include people from migrant, refugee or asylum seeker backgrounds in economic and social opportunities. <p>Our performance indicators</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase inter-cultural connections to promote diversity and harmony within communities. • Increase the proportion of Queensland Government stakeholders satisfied with the advice and support relating to multicultural issues, that supports them to effectively meet their obligations under the <i>Multicultural Recognition Act 2016</i>. 	<p>This objective contributes to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safeguarding our health • Backing our frontline services. <p>Our strategy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will invest in the development and capability of our staff, ensuring that their safety, health and wellbeing is our core priority, focusing on the attraction and retention of a skilled and dedicated workforce. • We will listen to our staff, address their concerns and offer flexible and supportive workplaces. • We will create and support a diverse and inclusive workplace reflective of the communities we serve. <p>Our performance indicators</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve staff safety, health and wellness in the workplace. • Improve the development, capability and learning opportunities of staff. • Improve the department's employment diversity. • Improve staff retention.

6

Social infrastructure

Social infrastructure is comprised of the facilities, spaces, services and networks that support the quality of life and wellbeing of our communities. It helps us to be happy, safe and healthy, to learn, and to enjoy life. The network of social infrastructure contributes to social identity, inclusion and cohesion and is used by all Australians at some point in their lives, often on a daily basis. Access to high-quality, affordable social services has a direct impact on the social and economic wellbeing of all Australians.

This chapter represents a broadening of the scope of Infrastructure Australia's focus since the 2015 Audit. It responds to the growing recognition of the role effective social infrastructure assets and networks play in supporting our nation's wellbeing. It examines the challenges and opportunities Australians face in accessing affordable, high-quality infrastructure across six social sectors:

- Health and aged care
- Education
- Green, blue and recreation
- Arts and culture
- Social housing
- Justice and emergency services.

Social infrastructure assets are the buildings and spaces that facilitate the delivery of social services by governments and other service providers. While assets are often considered individually, our social infrastructure networks as a whole play a nationally significant role in supporting Australia's economy, liveability and sustainability.

Our growing and ageing population, increasing urbanisation, migration, advancements in technology, and the changing nature of work will impact this sector over the next 15 years and beyond. These trends will increase demand for social infrastructure, particularly in our cities, and change the expectations people have for the variety, quality and accessibility of social infrastructure services and assets.

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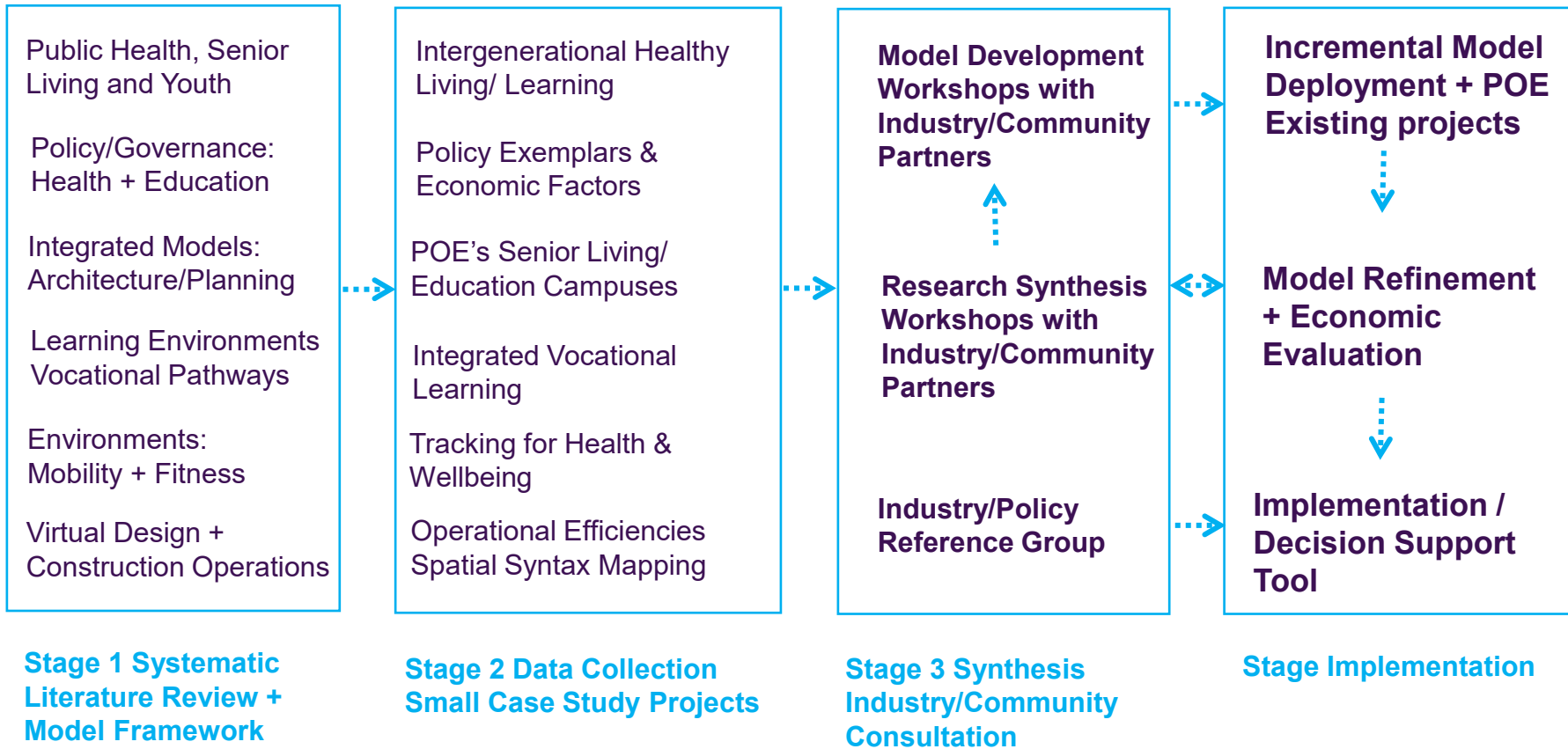
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Project activities

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RESEARCH PLAN:



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A magnifying glass is positioned over a bar chart. The chart has two sections, Q2 and Q3. Each section contains two bars, one blue and one green. The magnifying glass is focused on the Q2 section, making the bars and labels appear larger and more detailed. The background is a light blue gradient.

Survey School Principals

- 7% schools delivering intergenerational programs
- 85% respondents identified school facilities/spaces available for intergenerational programming
- 85% identified potential activities as a catalyst for interaction
- 50% interested in further development of opportunities to support youth training and career development & senior education/mentoring through onsite senior community

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Key informant interviews

25 stakeholder interviews focused on governance and legislative constraints in schools/ senior living environments.

Topics

- Characteristics/ background
- Existing intergenerational activities
- Grandschools model
 - Benefits
 - Site suitability, ownership
 - Governance,
 - Funding,
 - Risk management
 - Compliance requirements
 - Enterprise / social enterprise
 - Future planning



Designing Grand schools



Design Workshops

- COTA –Q
- St Johns Anglican College
- Pomona/Noosa Intergenerational Development

Masterplanning & Design

- University Research students
- QUT PhDs
- Masters of Architecture

The GrandSchools Project



<https://stjohnsgloballearninginstitute.qld.edu.au/the-grandschools-project/>

Decision Tools/ Certification