



## Citation for Fiona Taylor – 2026 Recipient of the Rosaria Campbell Award for Excellence in French Teaching

**Written by Bronwyn Radcliffe**

I am nominating Fiona Taylor for the Rosaria Campbell Award for Excellence in French Teaching. Fiona is Head of Languages at St Andrew's College and teaches Senior French classes and Junior Spanish classes. She has also taught German in the past. Fiona is a passionate and dedicated languages teacher and is a strong advocate for students to learn a second language.

Fiona is committed to professional development and seeks opportunities to participate in programmes, conferences, inter-school collaboration and NZALT cluster meetings. Fiona is currently in the GROW programme and is travelling to Canberra in November for the FATFA conference, where she is presenting on the Ellis principles. She is also currently the convenor of the NZALT conference being held in Christchurch in July.

As a Head of Department, Fiona is supportive and encouraging. She regularly shares ideas and resources and looks for opportunities to impart her knowledge and good practice with the other members of the department. Fiona spends a lot of time outside the classroom looking for ways to enhance her teaching practice and is always willing to try new things to keep students engaged in learning French.

I first met Fiona at a teachers' immersion trip to French Polynesia nearly 30 years ago and she has always inspired me as being a genuine and enthusiastic teacher of French. It is great to be working together at St Andrew's College and to benefit from her expertise and positive approach. Fiona is an experienced teacher, and her students thrive in her classroom. She delivers organised, well-balanced lessons using a variety of activities and interactive strategies to keep students engaged and challenged. She sets high expectations and provides her students with clarity around their learning.

Fiona also seeks authentic opportunities outside the classroom, such as taking students to French films, immersion trips to Akaroa, a Year 10 French day with Lincoln High School, and a trip to France and Spain in 2027. Fiona became accredited to assess the DELF examination last year, so that students are also offered the opportunity to gain this internationally recognised qualification.

One of Fiona's Year 13 student's father helped with the foundation of Te Arawhata in Le Quesnoy and she has had her interest sparked by this student. Fiona would relish the opportunity that the Rosaria Campbell award would provide, and I believe that she would be a most worthy recipient. If she were selected for this award, I know that Fiona would return with the learnings from this experience and would share these with other French teachers to inspire them to continue imparting their love of French with their students.