

EdTech Adoption in Australian Schools

2026 RESEARCH REPORT

Insights into EdTech adoption,
priorities, barriers and future intent
in Australian schools



Research at a glance

A mixed-methods view of how Australian schools are adopting, expanding and governing EdTech and Generative AI.

126

SURVEY
RESPONDENTS

5

SCHOOL LEADER
INTERVIEWS

56%

PLAN TO EXPAND
EDTECH USE IN THE
NEXT 12 MONTHS

60%

VERY OR EXTREMELY
INTERESTED IN
EDUCATION SPECIFIC
GENERATIVE AI

94%

CITE TIME, WORKLOAD & COMPETING
PRIORITIES AS KEY BARRIERS



Education-specific AI is the highest expansion priority yet has the lowest satisfaction ranking



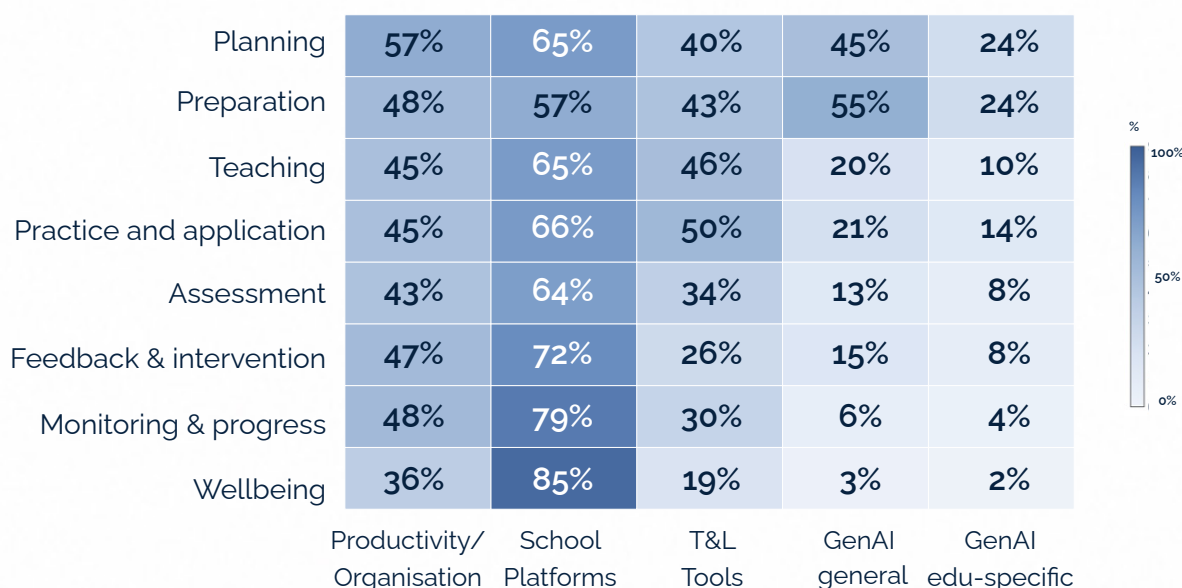
Schools want solutions that integrate well and reduce teacher workload



Adoption is strongest where tools support existing classroom and school workflows.

EdTech adoption varies across the teaching journey

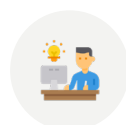
School platforms and content systems dominate across every stage, while GenAI is concentrated in planning and preparation.



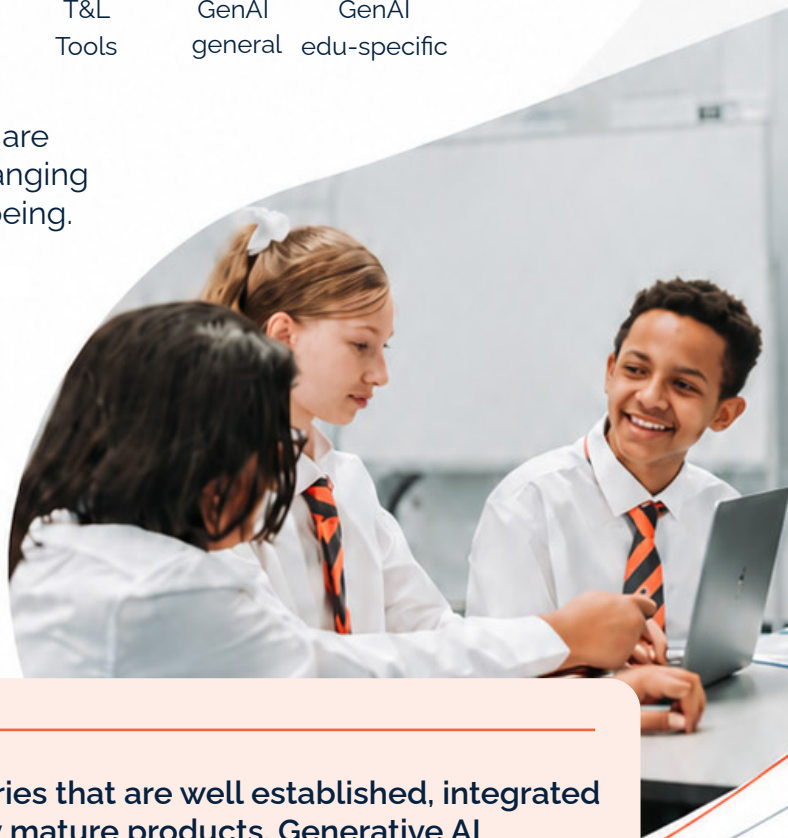
School platforms and content systems are the most consistently used category, ranging from 57% in preparation to 85% in wellbeing.



General-purpose GenAI is most visible in preparation (55%) and planning (45%), but drops sharply in later stages.



Teaching and learning tools are strongest in practice and application (50%) and in classroom teaching (46%).



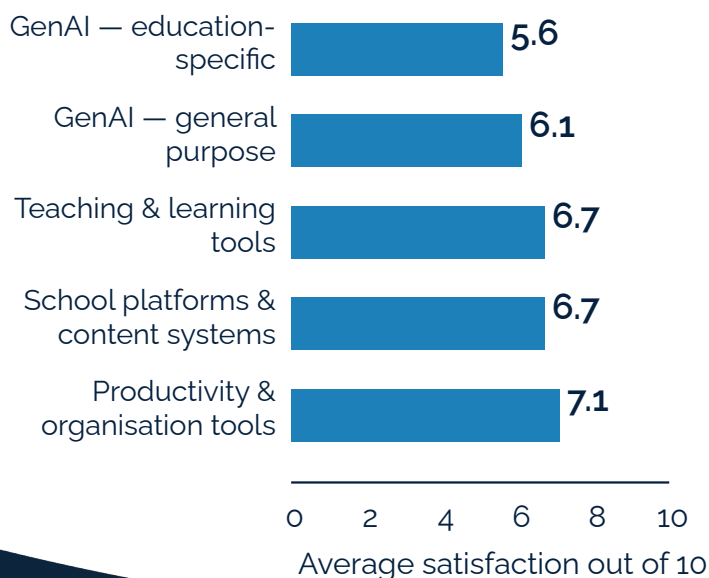
CAMPION'S FINAL WORD

The strongest adoption occurs in categories that are well established, integrated into existing workflows and supported by mature products. Generative AI appears to be following an earlier stage of the same adoption curve.

Satisfaction is solid, but unmet needs remain

Schools are broadly satisfied with established tools; the greatest future opportunity for improvement sits in the least mature categories.

Average satisfaction by EdTech tool category



No single product meets all needs - though productivity tools have been the most useful for schools



Schools continue to trial GenAI tools with very few meeting curriculum specific needs



In-house product development is on the rise, however schools tend to rely on products from established providers

CAMPION'S FINAL WORD

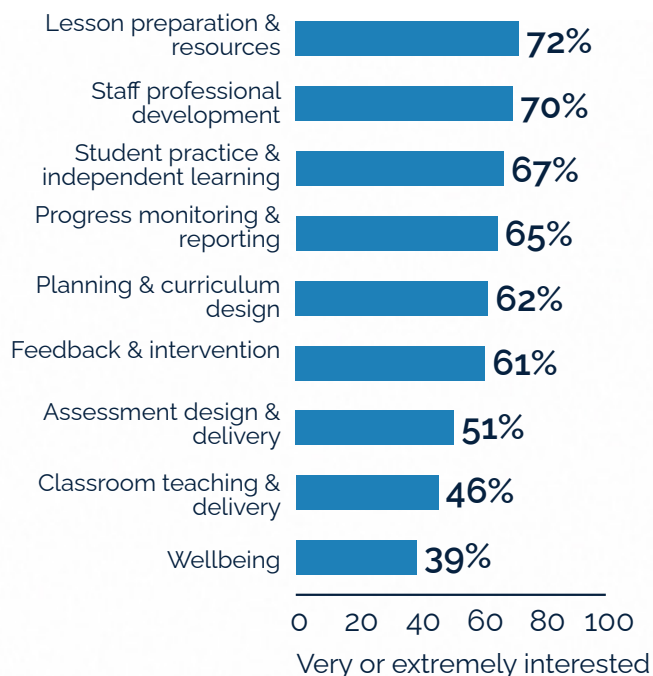
Moderate satisfaction scores may reflect more than product quality alone. Interviews suggest schools are increasingly evaluating fit, integration and ease of implementation alongside product features.



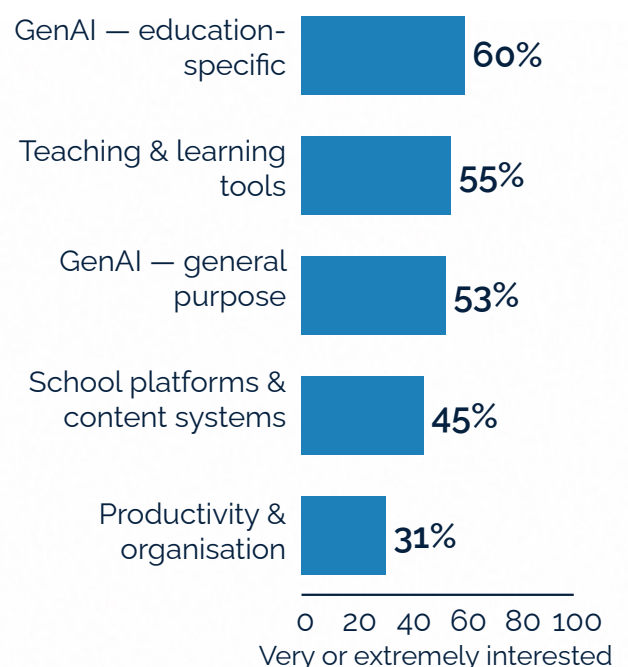
Where schools want to expand into next

Expansion ambition is strongest in lesson preparation, professional learning and education-specific GenAI.

Expansion priorities by teaching stage



Expansion priorities by category



KEY INSIGHTS

1

Lesson preparation and staff professional development were clear standouts for schools to expand application of in the coming year.

2

More than half of respondents signalled T&L tools and Gen AI - general and education specific - as priority expansion categories.

3

Non-government schools show stronger expansion intent, particularly in education-specific GenAI.

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Education-specific AI is the category with the greatest gap between interest and satisfaction. Schools appear to be actively searching for solutions that address teaching and learning needs more directly than general-purpose AI tools.



Governance and readiness are catching up to demand

Schools are building policy and capability, though barriers around workload, skills and risk remain significant.



Funding and cost implications are particularly impactful for government schools (58%) vs non-government schools (33%)

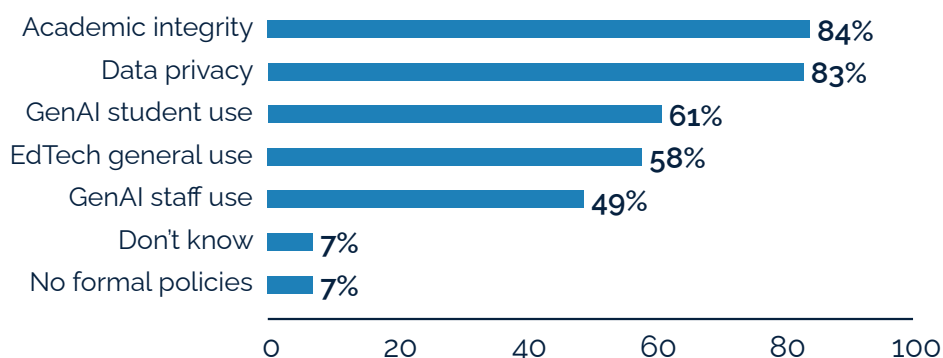


Schools continue to be proactive in data privacy and integrity, though shadow AI use proves to be challenging to manage.

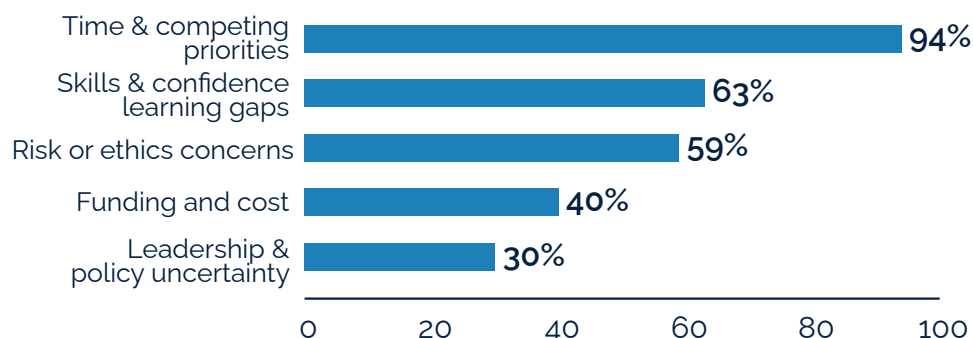


Audience-specific, age-staged EdTech use guidance is still in early development.

Existing formal policies



Barriers to adoption



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The greatest barrier to adoption is not access to technology but the capacity to adopt it. Time, workload and professional learning emerge as the key constraints on further growth.

What this means for your school

The next phase of adoption will be shaped less by novelty and more by fit, integration and trust.



THE KEY PURCHASING FILTERS



Learning alignment

Support the school's learning framework & educational goals.



Integration is vital

Compatibility with existing systems is a prerequisite, not a bonus.



Curated selection

Simplify or consolidate the current tool stack.



Pilot before you buy

Assess time, training and operational load through low-risk pilots.



Vendor trust is key

Prioritise long-term reliability, support and education-specific experience

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Balance urgency with integration and trust — add solutions only where they ease the burden on teachers and improve classroom impact.

1

Prioritise education-specific GenAI where it supports learning outcomes and teacher efficiency.

2

Frame decisions around assessment, feedback and teacher time savings.

3

Integrate your physical and digital resource process

4

Apply the same buying filters: alignment, integration, simplicity, visible costs and trust.

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EDUCATION

Let's talk about how Champion CuratED can help your school get ahead in 2027 - in and out of the classroom.

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