**D2. Justification of funding requested from the ARC – Examples**

**Personnel** *(****Please note****: do not include justification for the DECRA salary request)*

Research Assistant (HEW8.100, 0.15 FTE)

A Research Assistant (RA) with high-level qualitative research experience (e.g. minimum Honours qualification) is required to assist with analysis of the interview data and content analysis of literacy policy, plan and/or agreement documents. A suitable level of appointment is HEW8.100 at 0.15 FTE over three years. The requested funding per year is, **Year 1 $18,201, Year 2 $16,721, Year 3 $20,587**, with the total over three years $55,509.

**Travel**

International conference - Canada

CI to attend annual *International Association for Research Conference,* in 2026*,* and present a paper on the findings of the proposed project with the participants from academia, industry, and government. This conference attracts over 500 world leading researchers in this field and attendance will allow the CI to meet with future international collaborators and journal editors.

Conference registration fee for 2026 is $570 AUD.

Costing is based on a return international airfare for the 2026 location (Canada) and ATO reasonable travel allowance rates – return economy airfare from Perth to Ottawa, Canada = $2,500; Accommodation: $180/night x 6 nights ($1,080); Airport transfers 4 x $80 each ($320); Meals/incidentals: $235/day x 6 days ($1,410).

The **total cost of travel for the international conference is $5,960**.

**Field Research**

Travel for data collection

Travel will be required in the first year of the project to collect data from selected Schools for inclusion in the project. This travel is essential for a qualitative project that is dependent on the collection of interview data that relates to place. The CI will visit 9 regional and metropolitan schools in total, three schools per state in South Australia (SA), Tasmania (TAS) and Western Australia (WA) in the first year of the project.

**Travel costs, totalling $11,720**, will comprise:

* Airfares: Two return domestic airfares will be required (Perth – Adelaide and Perth to Hobart) at $1000 return each, plus one return airfare (Perth to regional WA) at $800 return. **Total cost of airfares** for field work is **$2800**.
* Car hire and fuel: Car hire will be needed in all locations to access the schools, except in the WA Perth metropolitan area where the CI will use her own vehicle (hence, vehicle mileage allowance is claimed instead). Given the inherent difficulty in accessing teachers during school hours, an average of 2 days for data collection will be needed per school to conduct the interviews and to allow time to travel to the next school. Additional travel time also needs to be factored in for arrival/departure in the major city or regional town; where possible, this will be scheduled to occur over the weekend when schools are closed and thus inaccessible. Hence, car hire costings are based on 8 days to cover three schools. Daily car hire rates are based on an average $50 per day. Calculations are based on: [SA, TAS & WA: $50 x 8 days]. Total cost of car hire **= $1,200**. The costing for fuel is based on an average of $120 per 8-day trip. **Total fuel cost** is estimated at **$360**.
* Accommodation: Hotel accommodation in SA and TAS, and in regional WA. Costing is in accordance with the ATO Reasonable Travel Allowance Rates of $200 per night, allowing for a total of 8 nights. accommodation in each of SA and TAS, and regional WA. **Total cost of hotel accommodation is $4,800**.
* Meals & incidentals: A daily allowance of $80 is calculated in accordance with the ATO Reasonable Travel Allowance Rates, and is required whilst travelling interstate and in regional WA. Costing is based on 16 days of travel in each of SA, TAS and 8 days of travel in regional WA. **Total cost of meals/incidentals is $1,920**.
* Airport transfers: Airport transfers (taxi) to Perth airport are required for the seven interstate flights and one flight to a regional WA town. The costing is based on $80 taxi fare per trip, or a **total of $640**. Airport transfers are only required to access Perth airport, since rental cars will be picked up and dropped off at each of the interstate and regional airports.

**Equipment**

VDAS-F versatile data acquisition system: required in Year 1 of the project, the purchase of equipment to be used for capturing accurate real time data capture, monitoring all the important readings such as temperatures on a computer, costing **$2,000**.

Solvents and gas for metal 3D printing: required in Year 2 of the project, the purchase of solvents and argon gas for metal 3D printing (10 sinter runs/year), to run experiments, with cost of **$4,000**.

**Maintenance**

Maintaining 3D printers and test rigs: 3D printers and the test rig that will be used for this project, require ongoing maintenance, therefore funds requested for Years 2 and 3. Moreover, unexpected failures may occur during usage. The overall maintenance cost is **$3,000/year**.

**Other**

Transcription services for interview data: Transcription of the interview data will be undertaken by professional transcribers. The costing for transcription services is based on the assumption of 9 schools, 5 interviews per schools (i.e. 2 children, 2 teachers and 1 school leader), each averaging 60 minutes (total of 45 hours), and a professional transcription rate of $2.60 per audio minute/$156 per hour. **The total cost of transcription is $7,020**.

Open access journal publication fee: The open access publication fee of $3,600 reflects the current fee for publishing in Q1 Taylor & Francis journal English in Education; CI has published seven papers previously in this journal, including one with open access at a cost of $3,226 in 2026.