AISSA
Providing a Coherent Approach to the Delivery of Excellent Services

Member Schools: Seeking Out Opportunities to be an Excellent School

Background

The AISSA is committed to providing services that offer opportunities for all member schools to achieve their aspirations, particularly in improving the quality and standards of education and care they provide within the vision and underpinning ethos of each school.

We acknowledge that local school governance and management is a fundamental strength of Independent schools.

We also acknowledge the importance of high quality leadership and teaching on the performance of schools and the achievement of their students.

The AISSA is seeking to enhance its services to assist schools face new challenges seek new solutions and generate new insights; especially in approaches to school leadership, (including governance), management and teaching and learning. Its role is to foster innovation, collaboration and creativity and to facilitate change rather than impose it.

The overall objectives of the emerging education and care reform agenda are underpinned by a school improvement strategy that is driven by both external regulation and internal institutional improvement. We believe the latter approach provides the opportunity for school leaders and their communities to plan and implement change.

We consider that building the organisational capacity of each school, including a positive culture to support improvement, innovation and effective and efficient decision making, requires a comprehensive approach to overall school improvement and organisational change. Many experts present consistent messages about the need for schools to develop new curriculum, adopt new technologies, implement different styles of leadership and teaching and learning and use resources in different ways if they are to generate sustainable improvement in the quality of education provided to students and overall school performance.

Overall Objectives

The AISSA will:

- evaluate its operations and services to ensure they are aligned with the above commitment and will ensure staff plan and deliver their support to schools within the above context.

- plan its service provision in consultation with member schools and related school authorities and associations.
assist schools to strongly link what happens on a day-to-day basis in teaching and learning to the broader strategic planning and operations of the school.

seek the advice of highly recognised experts, (including national and international) to ensure we are providing the best support to school leadership and providing multiple opportunities for them to learn from others, especially those in similar circumstances.

continue to provide opportunities for representatives of member schools and their related school authorities to debate key educational issues and policies and to share best practice across school communities.

ecknowledge schools to undertake organisational reviews and strategic planning, seek improvement in the quality of teaching and learning and identify and develop future leaders, including middle tier leaders within schools.

**Service Provision**

The AISSA and its related entities provide services that cover the following areas:

- Advocacy and representation
- Strategic policy analysis
- School resources, particularly funding
- School governance
- School leadership and management
- Industrial relations and human resource management
- Teaching and learning
- Curriculum review and development
- Legislation and regulation
- Promotion of the Independent sector
- Management of externally funded programs
- Communication with the media.

These services are resourced from both AISSA funds and a wide range of externally funded programs. AISSA staff will determine how their specific program or projects contribute to the overall broader strategy outlined above.

We look forward to working with you to provide high quality support to your schools.

We encourage school Principals and boards to plan and implement a coherent approach to the use of the services provided by AISSA.