



Association of  
Independent Schools  
of South Australia

## BULLETIN NO 6

4 September 2019

### Important Issues

#### Message from the AISSA Board Chair, Mr Kristian Downing

On behalf of the AISSA Board, I would like to congratulate AISSA Chief Executive, Mrs Carolyn Grantskalns, who has been recognised with the ACEL (Australian Council for Educational Leaders) National Fellowship for 2019. This award recognises Carolyn's leadership in education throughout her career, including driving a range of transformative initiatives and projects in the Independent school sector. These include the AISSA's bespoke model of school improvement, which recognises the range of contexts across Independent schools and is focussed on instructional leadership centred around the AISSA High Impact School Improvement Tool, along with initiating partnership projects with higher education institutions and establishing centres for leadership and innovation. The award further recognises Carolyn's longstanding commitment to encouraging others to take up leadership roles in education. Carolyn is a fierce champion of education in South Australia who has been at the forefront of educational policy development and is a tireless advocate for policy that leads to real improvements in education outcomes for all Australian students. It is comforting as a Board to have someone of Carolyn's standing leading our organisation.

#### Australian Government Recurrent Funding

The AISSA Chief Executive, along with other Independent school sector representatives, has met with the Minister for Education and Training, the Hon Dan Tehan, to outline the sector's expectation that the Australian Government will not move to implement the new Direct Income Measure (DIM) calculation for the SES until it has undergone sufficient validation to ensure it is fit for purpose. While the Government remains committed to implementing the new measure from 2020, the Minister indicated that he must be personally satisfied before this will occur. Work continues to be undertaken on the new measure by the Working Party which is governed by strict confidentiality requirements. Please contact [Carolyn Grantskalns](#) if you have any questions regarding Australian Government Funding.

#### Australian Government Draft Religious Freedom Bills

The Australian Government is inviting submissions on a package of legislative reforms on religious freedom. The AISSA would welcome any feedback on the draft Bills from member schools by no later than COB Friday 20 September. Copies of the Draft Bills and further information regarding the submissions process can be found on the [Attorney General's Department website](#). Submissions may be made until 5pm AEST 2 October 2019. Please contact [Carolyn Grantskalns](#) if you have any questions regarding the draft legislation.

#### Meetings of Country Principals, All Business Managers and BGA Information Session

The meeting of Country Principals will be held on 21 October commencing at 10.00 am. This will be followed by the BGA Information Session at 1.30 pm and the All Business Managers meeting at 4.00 pm.

#### Social Work-Truancy Service (Department for Education) – Request for Social Work Truancy Support

The three school sectors each have access to the Department for Education Social Work-Truancy Service to support schools with attendance, truancy and engagement concerns for students. The Social Work-Truancy Service has recently updated the documents for non-government schools which wish to request this support. This information was provided to member schools through the papers for the August Combined Primary and Secondary Heads meeting. Please contact [Bronwyn Donaghey](#) if you have any questions regarding the requirements.



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### **Parent Initiatives in Education (PIE) Grant Program**

The AISSA appreciates the decision by the Minister to provide funding for the PIE Grant program in 2020. Applications for the 2020 grant round will open in Term 4 2019.

### **Working With Children Check (WWCC) – Exemption for Adults from Overseas Accompanying Children in Government and Non-Government Services**

Information has been forwarded to member schools (email from Carolyn Grantskalns, 27 August 2019) regarding a temporary exemption for some adults travelling from overseas from the requirement to hold a WWCC. Please contact [Sonia Albertini](#) or [Mary Pickett](#) if you have any questions regarding the new WWCC requirements.

### **National School Chaplaincy Program**

Schools which change Chaplaincy/ Religious Pastoral Support Worker positions funded by the program are required to submit a new certification form, available from the [school funding page](#) of the AISSA website.

### **Scheduled Election E2019/17 – Extract of the AEC Post-election Report**

The extract of the Australian Electoral Commission's Post-election Report which deals with the AISSA Rules it considered to be difficult to apply/interpret is available on the [AISSA website](#). Please contact [Carolyn Grantskalns](#) if you have any questions regarding the Report extract or AISSA's response.

### **National Child Protection Week, 1-7 September 2019**

The 2019 National Child Protection Week focus is on introducing a 'child development' communication frame to promote the messages that children and young people do well when parents are supported and to raise thriving children, parents need support to navigate life's choppy waters. A range of resources, children's activities and ideas are available on the [website](#). A new website [Talking about parenting](#) has also been released which includes a useful toolkit based on recent research.

### **National Principles for Child Safe Organisations e-learning Modules**

The Australian Government commissioned the Australian Human Rights Commission to develop practical tools and resources to help organisations implement the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations. The [modules](#) are designed to help organisations of various sizes across all sectors in Australia to increase their knowledge and understanding of the National Principles, identify steps they need to take, and help people working or volunteering in all organisations which engage with children and young people.

### **External Conduct Standards**

The ACNC recently hosted a webinar on the newly implemented External Conduct Standards. A video of the webinar, along with a download of the associated slides, is available on the [ACNC website](#).

### **Whistleblower Policies**

The whistleblower protections in the *Corporations Act 2001* have been expanded to provide greater protections for whistleblowers who report misconduct about companies and company officers. ASIC is calling for public input on its proposed guidance on the new legal obligation on companies to implement a whistleblower policy and also the possibility of exempting public companies that are small not-for-profits or charities. Feedback is due by 18 September 2019. Further information is available via the [ASIC website](#).

### **Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) Status Reforms**

In late 2017, the Federal Government announced major reforms to the administration and oversight of organisations with Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) status which will now commence on 1 July 2020. As part of the proposed reforms, non-government DGR's will be required to be a registered charity with the ACNC or be operated by a registered charity. Further information is available via the [ACNC website](#).



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## Compliance Dates

<b>School Card</b>	Term 3 collection date, 6 September <b>Further Information:</b> <a href="#">Department of Education - External Relations</a>
<b>STATS</b>	Commencement date for reporting Term 3 Student Attendance, 20 September <b>Further Information:</b> <a href="#">Schools Service Point Help</a>
<b>STATS</b>	Reference period closes for the second collection of Student Attendance Data, 27 September <b>Further Information:</b> <a href="#">Schools Service Point Help</a>
<b>STATS</b>	Final date for entering and declaring Term 3 Student Attendance Data, 18 October <b>Further Information:</b> <a href="#">Schools Service Point Help</a>
<b>School Card</b>	Term 4 collection date, 25 October <b>Further Information:</b> <a href="#">Department of Education - External Relations</a>
<b>Superannuation</b>	Quarterly Payment due, 28 October <b>Further Information:</b> <a href="#">ATO-Superannuation</a>
<b>ATO Annual Reporting</b>	Payments to and amounts withheld from businesses that did not quote their ABN report due, 31 October. <b>Further Information:</b> <a href="#">ATO Annual Reporting</a>
<b>DECD Preschool Data Collection</b>	Term 4 collection due date (reference period 21 October-1 November), 15 November Enquiries: <a href="#">Lynda Secombe</a>
<b>Capital Grants Program</b>	BGA Round 2021 Stage 1 Capital Grant applications closing date, 10 November Further Information: <a href="#">Capital Grants Program (BGA)</a>

A full list of 2019 compliance dates is available on the AISSA website [www.ais.sa.edu.au](http://www.ais.sa.edu.au). Not all compliance dates may be applicable to all schools. Schools are advised to check with the relevant authorities if they are unsure.

Authorised by Carolyn Grantskalns  
AISSA Chief Executive