



Association of
Independent Schools
of South Australia

BULLETIN NO 2

11 March 2020

Important Issues

Commencement Service

The 2020 Commencement Service was held on Sunday 23 February at Walford Anglican School for Girls. The AISSA would like to express its thanks to the Walford school community for their generosity in hosting the service.

Australian Government Funding Announcement - DMI

The Australian Government has forwarded to approved authorities the interim Direct Measure of Income (DMI) scores, which will form the basis for calculating a school's capacity to contribute. Mr Nigel Bartlett, Manager Funding and Accountability, Independent Schools Victoria (ISV), a member of the Technical Working Group established by the (then) Department for Education and Training, provided a briefing to AISSA member schools on Wednesday 4 March. Copies of the presentation slides and a link to the audio have been forwarded to member schools. The AISSA continues to have significant concerns regarding the introduction and implementation of the DMI, in particular the lack of testing and validation of the new methodology, the potential volatility of the values and the impact this will have on school budgeting, and the current transition pathway for schools seriously disadvantaged by the move to the new measure. Please contact [Carolyn Grantskalns](#) if you have any questions regarding Australian Government recurrent funding.

Senate Inquiry – Australian Education Amendment (Direct Measure of Income) Bill 2020 [Provisions]

The Senate has referred the provisions of the Australian Education Amendment (Direct Measure of Income) Bill 2020, which will form the legislative basis for the introduction of the DMI, to the Education and Employment Legislation Committee for inquiry and report by 23 March 2020. Submissions are now due by 12 March 2020. The AISSA is preparing a response to the inquiry. Further information regarding the Bill can be found at the [committee's website](#) under 'Current Inquiries'.

Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)

The latest updates, including the extension of the travel ban to Italy, and a range of resources are available on the Australian Government Department of Health [website](#). The Telethon Kids Institute has produced an interview with infectious diseases researcher and paediatrician at Perth Children's Hospital, Dr Asha Bowen, and Professor Allen Cheng from Monash University, who is one of Australia's leaders in understanding and managing COVID-19, specifically related to the COVID-19 and children. The interview is available [here](#). The AISSA is working with the Department for Education to develop materials for schools to assist in planning. A decision is still to be made as to whether the State Government will participate in the limited exemption for Year 11 and 12 students to return to Australia from mainland China subject to meeting a range of requirements.

State Government Recurrent Funding

The AISSA is continuing to negotiate with the State Government on 2020 funding and beyond. Please contact [Carolyn Grantskalns](#) if you have any questions regarding State Government funding.

My School Principals' Portal Preview

ACARA requires all updates and corrections from Principals to be submitted before close of business Friday 13 March 2020 to ensure they take effect before the 2020 My School public release.

What Boards need to know about Student Wellbeing and Bullying

Professor Donna Cross will present a special session for Board members, underpinned by robust practical evidence, in regard to student wellbeing and learning, and the impact of bullying on individual students and the school community. Professor Cross will share the essentials of effective whole school approaches and rigorously tested school-based interventions which improve social and emotional wellbeing and minimise bullying. The aim of the session is to help School Boards build a deeper understanding of ways to identify and manage the inherent risks in these areas for schools. The session will be held on Tuesday 17 March at 4 pm. Further information is available via the AISSA [website](#).

State Capital Grant Acquittal 2019/2020

The State Government has sent out the acquittal form for the 2019/2020 State Capital Grant to schools which have received a grant under the program. The email will have come from Education:External Relations (Education.ExternalRelations@sa.gov.au). The acquittal form is due no later than 31 July 2020.

Education and Children's Services Act 2019 – Consultation on Draft Regulations

Following the passing of the *Education and Children's Services Act 2019* (the Act) in August 2019, the State Government has released for feedback the draft regulations, which support the implementation of the Act. While the regulations largely deal with how government schools, preschools and children's services in South Australia operate, a number of regulations deal with matters relevant to non-government schools and providers of approved learning programs, such as enrolment, attendance and protections for teachers, staff and students. Feedback can be provided via the Government of South Australia's online consultation hub, [YourSAy](#). The AISSA is engaging with the Legislative Reform Unit on the key elements of the Regulations affecting non-government schools. The consultation closes at 5:00pm on Friday 3 April 2020.

National School Chaplaincy Program

Grants have been paid to all participating schools which have met the requirements. Please contact [Carolyn Grantskalns](#) or [Bronwyn Donaghey](#) if you have any questions regarding the acquittal or the new program.

Parent Initiatives in Education (PIE) Grant Program

Recommendations are currently with the State Government Minister for Education. Due to the volume of applications compared to the total grant funding available it is unlikely that applicants will not receive the full amount applied for in their application.

Transitioning to NAPLAN Online

The transition implementation timeline for NAPLAN online has been extended to 2021. This year 91% of Independent schools plan for students to complete NAPLAN using the online mode. Schools with students using the paper mode this year will be required to participate in online school readiness activities over a two-week period in Term 3. These schools will be notified when the dates have been finalised nationally. The NAPLAN dates are as follows:

- NAPLAN Online mode: Tuesday 12 May – Friday 22 May
- NAPLAN Paper mode: Tuesday 12 May – Friday 15 May

Copyright 4 Educators course

The National Copyright Unit (NCU) is offering the 'Copyright for Educators' course which may be of interest to teachers, librarians, university students studying to become teachers and IT managers who are seeking to develop more expertise in the Australian education copyright regime. In 2020 the course will be running in Terms 2 (11 May-30 June) and Term 3 (3 August-22 September). Term 2: Enrolments open: 4 May 2020 and Term 3: Enrolments open: 27 July. Further information is available via the NCU [website](#).

eSafety Toolkit for Schools.

The eSafety Commissioner has released the [eSafety Toolkit for Schools](#), which provides a suite of resources that support primary and secondary schools to create safer online environments. The resources are backed by evidence and research into best practice in online safety education and are designed to reduce the likelihood of, and effectively respond to, online safety issues in schools.



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Compliance Dates

Update Details	Update details of changes to key personnel on SchoolsHUB, ongoing Further Information: SchoolsHUB
Update Details	Ensure details are accurate on Child Care Management System (CCMS) Further Information: DESE - Child Care Subsidy
Update Details	Advise DfE External Relations of any changes to key personnel, ongoing Further Information: DfE - External Relations
2020 Student Residential Address Collection	Due 13 March Further Information: DESE - Australian Education Act 2013
My School Principals' Portal	Final date for advising ACARA of changes prior to 2020 launch, 13 March.
Animal Ethics	Closing Date for submission of Application for Categories 4 and 5 Activities or Non-Listed Activities 29 March Further Information: Animal Ethics - Information and Procedures
School Card	Term 1 collection date 3 April Further Information: DfE - External Relations
STATS	SchoolsHUB opens for schools to undertake acknowledgement process for the reporting of Student Attendance Data, 6 April Further Information: Schools Service Point Help
Block Grant Authority	Round 2021 Stage 3 Capital Grant applications closing date, 14 April Further Information: Capital Grants Program (BGA)

A full list of 2020 Compliance dates is available on the AISSA website 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
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