



Association of  
Independent Schools  
of South Australia

## BULLETIN NO 3

6 May 2020

### Important Issues

#### **COVID-19 Update – Message from AISSA Chief Executive, Mrs Carolyn Grantskalns**

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic I have been in frequent contact with the Heads of the Government and Catholic school sectors along with the Minister for Education, the Hon John Gardner, and his office. All have expressed admiration for the work that has been undertaken by South Australian schools in response to COVID-19, in particular the speed with which schools were able to move to develop the capacity to deliver remote education, while maintaining a physical presence for students for whom physically attending school was the best option, and then transition back to onsite learning. South Australia is doing incredibly well in its response and I thank all Independent school communities for their commitment to playing their part in the State's response.

#### **ATO Webinar**

The ATO has agreed to hold a Question and Answer session on the Australian Government JobKeeper payment. The session will be held Thursday 7 May 2020, 10.15am for a 10:30am start, ACST. For schools which submitted questions unrelated to JobKeeper, we will seek further clarification from the ATO. Details of the session have been forwarded to member schools (email from Carolyn Grantskalns, 6 May).

#### **Australian Government Recurrent Funding – Offer to Bring Forward the July Payment Approved Authorities**

The AISSA welcomed the offer by the Minister, the Hon Dan Tehan, to bring forward the July payment for approved authorities to assist schools which may have cash flow issues as a result of COVID-19. The AISSA was, however, disappointed that the Minister sought to put unnecessary conditions on its receipt, in particular given the pressures that have been placed on schools relating to the Government's COVID-19 response. The AISSA has written to the Minister conveying its disappointment and seeking a genuine engagement with the Independent school sector on the support that is required to assist Independent schools and their communities during this challenging time. For schools which have taken up the offer the payment will be made in two equal instalments in May and June.

#### **COVID-19 Resources**

The AISSA has developed a number of resources to support member schools in their response to COVID-19. Resources have been categorised as follows:

- [Updates for School Leaders](#)
- [Policy and Procedure Resources](#)
- [Learning Continuity Resources for Educators](#)
- [Updates for Parents](#)

#### **AISSA Professional Learning**

The AISSA will continue its professional learning offerings in Term 2. At this point all professional learning is being offered via remote delivery to support the need for social distancing and limiting unnecessary movement. The AISSA will base future decisions regarding delivery on the advice of SA Health.

#### **School Financial Management in Uncertain Times, Briefing for Principals, Business Managers and School Boards**

The link to the audio and presentation slides from the briefing on school financial management by Paul Campey, Resolve Consulting, held Tuesday 4 May, has been forwarded to member schools (email from Lynn Carter, 5 May 2020).



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### **Australian Government Recurrent Funding - DMI**

Legislation giving effect to the DMI calculation has been passed. The AISSA continues to have significant concerns in regard to the potential volatility of the new measure and recommends cautious budgeting going forward. For schools negatively impacted by DMI the AISSA continues to advocate for an extended transition and a delay to the 2022 commencement date. Please contact [Carolyn Grantskalns](#) if you have any questions regarding the AISSA's position on recurrent funding.

### **The South Australian Public Health (Early Childhood Services and Immunisation) Amendment Bill 2020**

The *South Australian Public Health (Early Childhood Services and Immunisation) Amendment Bill 2020* has been passed by Parliament. The legislation will, from early August, exclude children from early learning services, up to the age of six, who have not been fully vaccinated. The AISSA is seeking clarification on the legislation and its implications for Independent centres.

### **State Government Support Package for South Australian International Education Sector**

In April the State Government announced a new \$13.8 million support package for South Australia's international education sector in the wake of COVID-19. As part of the package the State Government committed to a one-off \$200 assistance payment per student living with South Australian homestay families. The Department for Education has written to CRICOS registered schools informing them of the process for accessing the payment.

### **NBN Co - COVID-19 Education Assistance Package**

NBN Co is providing up to \$50 million to assist phone and internet providers to support low-income family households with school-aged children who do not currently have an active nbn™ connection at home. Information on the list of providers participating in the scheme, along with some frequently asked questions, is available on the [website](#).

### **ATO Tax Time 2020 - Teacher and Education Professional Resource Kit**

The ATO has introduced a simplified method for claiming deductions for anyone working from home as a result of COVID-19. Further information is available via the [Working from home guide](#).

### **NAPLAN**

On Friday 20 March, in light of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, Education Ministers announced that NAPLAN would not proceed for 2020. The impact of this decision on the current transition timeline for moving to on-line testing and any possible extension to 2022 will be a topic for future Ministerial decision.

### **Privacy**

The AISSA has updated its Privacy Policy and Standard Collection Notice to reflect organisational digital technology and security advancements. These documents outline how personal information will be collected, used and retained in accordance with the Australian Privacy Principles and are housed on the [AISSA website](#).

### **Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability –Rights and Attitudes Issues Paper**

The Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability has released an issues paper, which looks at the awareness and recognition of the rights of people with disability. Further information is available via the [website](#).

### **National Reconciliation Week 27 May – 3 June and NAIDOC Week**

The theme for National Reconciliation Week (NRW) 2020 is 'In This Together'. This year [Reconciliation Australia](#) encourages everyone to think differently and creatively about how to celebrate NRW. A range of resources can be accessed from AISSA [Reconciliation webpage](#). [NAIDOC Week](#), usually held in early July, has been postponed due to COVID 19.



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## Compliance Dates

### STATS

Final date for schools to undertake acknowledgement process in SchoolsHUB for the reporting of Student Attendance Data, 15 May  
**Further Information:** [SchoolsHUB](#)

### School Card

Term 2 Collection date, 15 May  
**Further Information:** [DfE - External Relations](#)

### Preschool Data Collection

Term 2 Collection due 15 – 29 May  
**Further Information:** [Lynda Secombe](#)

### Fringe Benefits Tax

Statutory Date for FBT Return, 21 May  
**Further Information:** [ATO - Fringe Benefits Tax](#)

### Workplace Gender Equality Act

Workforce reports due (for applicable schools – 100 employees or more) due 31 May  
**Further Information:** [Workplace Gender Equality Agency - Reporting](#)

### Associations Incorporation Act 1985 (SA)

AGM must be held by 31 May for schools incorporated under the Act.  
**Further Information:** [Consumer and Business Services - Incorporated Associations](#); [COVID-19 Information for Associations](#)

### School Card

Term 2 Collection due, 19 June  
**Further Information:** [DfE - External Relations](#)

A full list of 2020 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