

Latest News

Programs and Services



ASSOCIATION of INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS of WESTERN AUSTRALIA

From the Director of School Programs and Services



Welcome to 2025!

As we step into 2025, we hope your holiday season was restful and rejuvenating. The Schools Program and Services Team at AISWA extends our warmest greetings to all member schools. We trust the start of the year has been both fruitful and promising for you.

A new year offers fresh opportunities, unique challenges, and a renewed sense of purpose as we work together to educate and inspire the next generation. Our team remains dedicated to supporting your educational undertakings, whether you need expert insights, practical guidance, or a strong network of support.

This year, we are excited to engage even more closely with our member schools. A schedule of school visits is already underway, made possible by the generous invitations of school principals.

At the core of our mission is a commitment to serving our schools with excellence. To help you access our support with ease, we've provided a quick overview of our services in the table below.

We value your feedback and are always here to assist. Whether you're looking for resources, tailored guidance, or simply a listening ear, our team is ready to help.

Here's to a year of collaboration, growth, and success for all!

Warm regards

[Helen Aguiar](#)

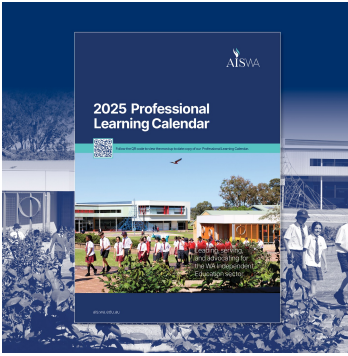
Director School Programs and Services

NEWSLETTER CONTENTS

This newsletter contains the following information:

- Professional Learning Calendar.
- Program and Services Team Contacts.
- Consent, Respectful and Wellbeing Program Update.
- Inclusive Education Program Update.
- AISWA Future Footprints Events.
- Useful Information and Links.

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING CALENDAR



Don't miss out on our Professional Learning events in 2025. Our easy-to-use 2025 Professional Learning Calendar features a variety of in-person sessions, online webinars, and conferences.

Secure your spot today! Our events cover topics such as governance and compliance, school leadership, teaching and learning, non-teaching staff support, student wellbeing, and much more. Our experts are dedicated to developing and delivering programs and services that enable excellence in education.

You can explore all professional learning opportunities for 2025 [here](#).

SCHOOL PROGRAMS AND SERVICES TEAM



Child Protection

[Lynne Nixon](#) (Consultant)

Consultancy and support in all aspects of child protection and child safeguarding in schools. This includes but is not limited to:

- Delivery of a variety of Professional Learning.
- Assistance with child protection related situations including Mandatory Reporting.
- Standard 10 Preventing and Responding to Child Abuse.
- Reportable Conduct Scheme.



Future Footprints

[Andrew Beck](#) (Lead Consultant, pictured)

[Kristy Ninyette](#) (Consultant)

Support for Student and Families

- Support for School Coordinators.
- Offer Cultural guidance for school staff and students.
- Connect with students in key events.
- Further information found [here](#).



Inclusive Education

[Amanda Fernihough](#) (Manager, pictured)

[Bronte Paterson](#) (Consultant)

[Karen West](#) (Consultant)

[Simon Campbell](#) (Funding Coordinator)

- Assist schools and teachers to meet their professional and legislative obligations in providing an inclusive school environment.
- Specialist advice on evidence based practice for inclusive education and students with disability.
- Assist schools in understanding and applying for State Special Education Supplementary funding and advise schools in Nationally Consistent Collection of Data (NCCD).
- Support with evidence based practice for Gifted and Talented.
- Further information found [here](#).



Industrial and Workplace Relations

[Nigel Briggs](#) (Consultant)

- Provide advice to member schools relating to State and National Employment Law.
- Provide advice to member schools on best employment practices and support to schools negotiating Enterprise Agreements.
- Investigate and provide direction for member schools on a variety of legal related matters.
- Keep members abreast of Industrial Relations and Education Legislation in both Federal and State Jurisdictions.
- Support member schools with parental concerns before they escalate.



Policy and School Registration

[Adrian Scott](#) (Consultant)

- Assist with registration preparation for new and re-registering schools.
- Assist schools to ensure they meet Non-Government-School standards and compliance requirements.
- Provide policy and procedural writing guidelines to assist schools.
- Assist with school governance and constitutional matters.

Available to visit schools, address staff principals, boards, and leadership teams to assist and understand how best we can serve schools in these areas.



Psychology Services

[Julie Townsend](#) (Lead Psychologist)

- Provide psychological services to assist with learning and disability.
- Provide support with behaviour, engagement, and attendance.
- Support wellbeing and mental health;
- Emergency and critical incident management.
- The Psychology team assists schools across individual, group, whole school, and systems levels to help build capacity in schools and school staff.



Consent and Respectful Relationships and Wellbeing

[Lucy Sabatini](#) (Manager)

- Provide leadership, support and advice on the design and delivery of whole school approaches to CRRE and wellbeing.
- Deliver professional learning to assist in developing and implementing CRRE and wellbeing programs and initiatives.

Provide professional learning to support teachers in improving their capability to prioritize, resource and implement explicit teaching of social and emotional skills and CRRE.



CARE and WA Collegiate Schools

[Amanda Fernihough](#) (Manager, Inclusive Education)

[Adrian Scott](#) (Consultant, Policy and School Registration)

- Coordinate CARE and WA Collegiate Schools forums.
- Collaborate with AISWA teams to enhance service delivery.



Aboriginal Independent Community Schools (AICS)

- Coordinate all AISWA interaction and activity with Aboriginal Independent Community Schools (AICS), CARE Schools, and the Small School Collegiate.
- Collaborate with AISWA teams to enhance service delivery.
- Provide ongoing support to school governing bodies and principals, fostering community-responsive leadership aligned with state and federal public policy.

Note: Once we have confirmed the coordinator for AICS we will communicate this with schools.

Professional Learning Opportunities

Program and Services

Click the table links below to learn more about our upcoming Professional Learning opportunities. For a comprehensive list, including online learning courses, please visit AISWA's [Professional Learning Events & Calendar](#).

Event Date	Title	
Curriculum and School Improvement		
24 February	Education Assistant Day	Register by 17 February
Day 1 - 4 April Day 2 - 28 April	High Impact Teaching Strategies for Mathematics	Register by 28 March
7 April	High Impact Practices (HIPS)	Register by 31 March
8 April	High Impact Practices (HIPS)	Register by 1 April
Governance and Business Operations		
14 March	Governance Specifics in an Independent School	Register by 7 March
18 March	School Registration Seminar	Register by 11 March
Leadership and Development		
12 February	National Certification of Highly Accomplished or Lead Teachers - Information Session	Register by 5 February
27 March	Early Career Teachers Program - Semester 1 Intake	Register by 17 March
School and Student Support		
20 February	Inclusive Education Symposium	Register by 13 February
26 February	A Whole School Approach to Online Safety	Register by 19 February
4 March	Keeping Safe: Child Protection Curriculum Training	Register by 25 February
Day 1 - 10 March Day 2 - 11 March	Gatekeeper Suicide Prevention Training	Register by 3 March
13 March	Team Teach Training	Register by 6 March
Day 1 - 31 March Day 2 - 1 April	Youth Mental Health First Aid	Register by 24 March

Please feel free to contact me, [Lucy Sabatini](#) anytime; I would appreciate the opportunity to meet with you to discuss Wellbeing and Consent and Respectful Relationship Education at your school, and the ways in which I can be of support. I look forward to visiting your school soon and I wish you a wonderful Term One.



Safer Internet Day

- Tuesday 11 February is Safer Internet Day. Start Term 1 with activities that allow your students to think critically about how to stay safe online and promote positive online interactions.
- Go to eSafety [here](#) for your Safer Internet toolkit.
- [Download School Toolkit for Educators](#) – includes messages for your school newsletter, poster, social media images, chatterbox activity and more.
- For additional information regarding Child Protection on the AISWA website please click [here](#) after logging into the AISWA website.
- Register for Social Media Self Defence for School Leaders with e-Safety Commission [here](#).



Professional Learning

A Whole School Approach to Online Safety Education

- Wednesday 26 February, 9.00am–12.00pm
- AISWA will welcome Nicky Sloss, Manager of the Education Sectors – Education, Prevention and Inclusion Branch at the e-Safety Commission to present a face-to-face session designed for school leaders and staff who work in wellbeing and child safety.
- Find out more [here](#).

Keeping Safe: Child Protection Teacher Training

- Tuesday 4 March, 9.00am – 3.30pm
- This course will unpack the structure and core messages of the Curriculum, giving participants the opportunity to familiarise themselves with the resources and experience some of the activities and lessons.
- The Keeping Safe: Child Protection Curriculum (KS:CPC) aims to help children and students from preschool to senior secondary learn to recognise abuse and develop ways of protecting themselves from abuse and, in wider terms, covers rights, relationships, responsibilities and ethical behaviour.
- Find out more [here](#).

Child Safe WA Independent Schools

- Thursday 20 March, 9.00am-3.30pm
- This training focuses on supporting schools in fostering a culture of safety by implementing the National Principles for Child Safe

Organisations in alignment with the Guide to the Registration Standards and Other Requirements for Non-Government Schools.

- Find out more [here](#).

INCLUSIVE EDUCATION

We are excited to announce some changes and a slight restructure of roles for the IE team in 2025. This restructure is designed to enhance our collaboration and streamline our processes, ensuring that we can provide the best support and service to schools.

Simon Campbell has been appointed as the Inclusive Education Funding Coordinator, a newly created role that will see Simon focus solely on supporting schools on all funding related matters. His wealth of knowledge around students with disability funding and his ability to quickly respond to any and all funding queries will be an asset to the team.

- Amanda Fernihough – Inclusive Education Manager
- Bronte Paterson – Inclusive Education Consultant
- Karen West – Inclusive Education Consultant
- Simon Campbell – Inclusive Education Funding Coordinator
- To find the consultant attached to your school, please see the list [here](#).

Special education funding

Special Education Supplementary (SES) Per Capita Grant Funding

- AISWA Inclusive Education provides the avenue for all Independent Schools in Western Australia to access State Government Special Education funding.
- Funding is provided to non-government schools by the WA State Government in recognition of the additional costs required to educate a student with a disability.
- For further information related to funding, please click [here](#).
- We ask schools at this time to ensure that your school's Funding Coordinator and Approvers are up to date on the member portal.
- The student database is currently OPEN and available for schools to upload diagnostic reports, documented plans and to complete impact of disability boxes.
- Round 1 applications will open on 20th February and close 26th March 2025.
- The Australian Government Department of Education has advised that the 2025 NCCD Guidelines and updated NCCD Quick Guide, were published on the NCCD Portal on 9 September 2024.
- The [home page](#) of the NCCD Portal has been updated with information about the 2025 NCCD Guidelines and a banner and news item has also been published on [SchoolsHub](#).
- Typically, during Term 1, planning activities are underway for NCCD. This is a great time to establish a school team to lead the NCCD and build understanding of school's obligations and the NCCD. For guidance and support resources are available on the NCCD website [here](#).



FUTURE FOOTPRINTS



AISWA On Country Teacher Cultural Immersion Opportunity - 2025

- AISWA Future Footprints is excited to announce the 2025 East Kimberley First Nations Immersion Program scheduled for 7 – 11 July 2025. This is an inaugural opportunity being offered by AISWA Future Footprints.
- The On Country Teacher Cultural Immersion Program is designed for aspiring school leaders and educators offering the opportunity to experience the uniqueness of Aboriginal Culture and deepen understanding of Australia's First Peoples.
- The On Country Teacher Cultural Immersion Program will have participants engaging in a range of hands-on activities which will include some of the following: Ngarinyin language lessons, kinship structures, bush tucker and bush medicines, making fire, dancing and fishing.
- The cost of the tour is \$4100.00.
- You can find out more information [here](#).
- If you have any questions, please contact [Andrew Beck](#).



National Reconciliation Week 2025

- 27 May – 3 June 2025
- Theme: Bridging Now to Next.
- Find out more [here](#).

NAIDOC 2025

- 6-13 July 2025
- Theme: The Next Generation: Strength, Vision & Legacy.
- Find out more [here](#).

INFORMATION



- Funding is now open which aims to promote and advance reconciliation in WA schools, by supporting initiatives that enhance the education and understanding of Aboriginal cultures, achievements and histories. For more information, click [here](#).
- St John WA has numerous first aid training courses available. For more information, visit their [website](#).
- Edventure Travel offers school tours to Asia and New Zealand. For more information, visit their [website](#).
- Aussie Optimism is an evidence-based mental health promotion program for children in primary and lower secondary school. For more information, visit their [website](#).
- Variety WA Community Grant Funding is available. For more information, click [here](#).
- Mensa Gifted Children's Grants are available. Applications may be made by the child, parent, teacher, guardian, mentor, or any interested person on behalf of the child. For more information, visit their [website](#).

For any inquiries or assistance, please do not hesitate to reach out to our team [here](#) or call us at (08) 9441 1600.

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