

Official Statement No. 21, 12 July 2024

School Policy and Funding Advisory Council

Senior Secondary Reforms and Student Movement

The School Policy and Funding Advisory Council (Council) was provided an update on the Senior Secondary Pathways Reform and the collective efforts to support all Victorian students to stay in education and complete their senior secondary certificate.

Council approved-in-principle the department exploring cross-sectoral data sharing for the purposes of better understanding and measuring student pathways and outcomes. Noting that data sharing would be a matter for independent schools to consider on an individual basis.

School Workforce Challenges

Council was provided an update on the Victorian school workforce investment and initiatives to support teacher supply in Victoria, Permission to Teach arrangements in Victorian schools and the National Teacher Workforce Action Plan.

Council noted the positive signs that these initiatives are working with around 8,000 more registered teachers in Victoria in June 2023 compared with June 2020.

NDIS Foundational supports

Council was provided with an update on NDIS foundational supports, and its implementation in education settings across all sectors.

State Budget update – School Saving Bonus

Council was provided an update on information regarding the School Saving Bonus for non-government school students.

Independent Schools Victoria (ISV) and the Victorian Catholic Education Authority (VCEA) requested that they are consulted in advance before the announcement of future budget initiatives.

Commonwealth-State update

Council was provided an update on Commonwealth-State matters, including matters considered at the Education Ministers Meeting in April 2024.

Victorian Academy of Teaching and Leadership update

Council was provided an update on the Victorian Academy of Teaching and Leadership (Academy) programs from the Chief Executive Officer of the Academy and discussed the cross sectoral relationships and participation across Academy programs.

About

Established in 2015, the Council provides advice to the Minister for Education on regulatory, policy and funding issues that affect public and non-government schools.

Council meets 3 times each year and Official Statements are shared after each meeting. The department provides secretariat support to the Council. Previous statements can be found online on the department's website: <https://www.vic.gov.au/school-policy-and-funding-advisory-council>

Membership

Ms Jenny Atta Secretary Department of Education (Chair)	Professor Elizabeth Labone Chief Executive Officer Victorian Catholic Education Authority	Ms Meg Hansen Acting Chief Executive Independent Schools Victoria	Chris Wardlaw, Independent Member	Dr David Howes Deputy Secretary Schools and Regional Services, Department of Education
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Council Secretariat

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