

EDUCATION: TASMANIA'S FUTURE INTRODUCTION TO TASMANIA'S NEW EDUCATION ACT

INFORMATION FOR TASMANIAN GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS

In November 2016 the new Education Act 2016 was passed by Parliament. This is to provide you with information about the new Act and how it will support our work in Tasmanian Government schools. If you would like to view the Education Act 2016 [click here](#).

The Act provides schools with a contemporary legislative framework that will assist us to deliver on our Learners First Mission, 'to provide every child and young person in Tasmania with the opportunity to continue to learn and reach their full potential'.

Implementation of the Act also provides us with a unique opportunity to review all relevant policies and procedures relating to the provision of education in our schools. This will ensure that they are fit for purpose, simple and easy to use.

School leaders will have opportunities to have input into the development and implementation of elements of the Act. Further information about how will be forthcoming shortly.

WHAT WILL CHANGE?

From 10 July 2017:

Conciliation Conferences

Students with continued unexplained absences can be supported to attend compulsory conciliation conferences: The compulsory conciliation conferences will see students across State and non-government schools referred to the independent Registrar to identify the reasons for excessive unexplained non-attendance.

Parents, students, principals and social workers will come together with a conciliator to consider a student's

individual needs and this will inform the development of a support strategy, enforceable by the registrar, that aims to increase the student's participation and engagement in school.

Student Behaviour

Students will be positively supported to behave appropriately, taking into account the background and context of the student: The Secretary of the Department of Education will issue instructions relating to acceptable and unacceptable behaviour. School principals, in consultation with school associations, will develop a school behaviour management policy based on these instructions that supports all students to learn.

Dual Enrolment

Students with a disability will be able to access education opportunities through dual enrolment: Dual enrolment for students with a disability will be formally recognised.

Home Education

Home educated students will be able to attend school to supplement their home education program where there is capacity: Principals will develop a policy based on ministerial instructions to provide for the circumstances in which a home educated student may attend the school part time. Schools will receive pro rata funding for the student.

School Associations

The legal structure of School Associations will be formalised: All Tasmanian government school associations will be incorporated under the Education Act 2016.