

Official Statement No. 20, 15 March 2024

School Policy and Funding Advisory Council

System Performance

Council noted the 2023 cross-sectoral National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) results, and the challenges and opportunities presented by the data.

Council noted that the Victorian Academy of Teaching and Leadership is supporting improved system performance through its Teaching Excellence program.

Disability Royal Commission

Council noted the education-related recommendations in the final report of the Royal Commission into Violence, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability (Disability Royal Commission).

Council discussed the cross-sectoral challenges and opportunities arising from the Disability Royal Commission, and agreed on an approach to future work on cross-sectoral matters.

Child Link

Council discussed embedding Child Link into schools' practice and ensuring a seamless approach to student wellbeing and safety across Victorian schools.

Child Link is a digital tool that displays key factual information about every child in Victoria to authorised trained professionals, including principals, teachers and wellbeing professionals, helping to support student wellbeing and safety.

Updates for Council

Council was provided an update on Commonwealth-State matters and new and ongoing changes to legislation affecting the school sector.

Council approved the 2024 Council workplan and noted the updated Terms of Reference which will be published on the Council's web page on the Victorian government website.

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)	Mr Bruce Phillips Acting 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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