

Latest News

Curriculum and Pedagogy



ASSOCIATION of INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS of WESTERN AUSTRALIA

SEPTEMBER 2026 EDITION



Welcome to the latest edition of the Curriculum & Pedagogy Newsletter.

As Term 3 ends, we are pleased to share a range of opportunities, resources and updates for educators and leaders across the AISWA community.

The CAP team has enjoyed contributing to this term's AISWA regional roadshows, to Bunbury and Geraldton, engaging with school leaders and Board representatives to discuss emerging priorities, share insights and contribute to conversations that will help shape future AISWA strategy, advocacy and support for regional schools.

In partnership with SCSA, AISWA recently hosted a series of curriculum familiarisation workshops for The Arts and Languages. The implementation of these two learning areas in 2027, ends the full implementation cycle of the P-10 WA Curriculum.

We are excited to announce the launch of a proposed Singapore Immersion Tour for Heads of Primary and Curriculum Leaders across K-6. Read on for further information.

In addition to the Singapore Tour, the team have been working hard behind the scenes to contribute to AISWA's 2027 Learning Calendar. An exciting and diverse line up of opportunities is on the horizon. Watch this space!

In addition to our face-to-face learning events, we welcome opportunities to partner with schools through our growing suite of consultancy services. If you would like to discuss support for your school in areas such as leadership development, school improvement, curriculum implementation, VET and Career Education or Early Childhood and Primary, please contact the team at cap@ais.wa.edu.au.

I hope you enjoy a well earned break.

[Kris Stafford](#)

For general enquiries, email us [here](#). For PL requests, email us [here](#).

Summary of Content

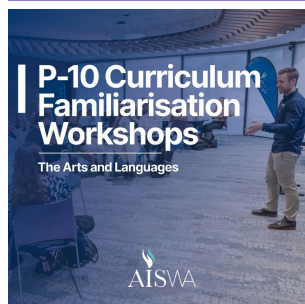
In this edition:

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P-10 Curriculum Familiarisation Workshops – The Arts and Languages



Last week was busy and productive for curriculum professional learning at AISWA, with four **Curriculum Familiarisation Workshops** across The Arts and Languages learning areas. Supported by SCSA, these workshops brought together educators to explore the revised curriculum for implementation in 2027.

The sessions provided valuable opportunities to examine curriculum changes, discuss implementation considerations, collaborate with colleagues and build confidence in planning and delivery. Strong participation and engagement highlighted the value of shared professional learning and collective approaches to curriculum implementation, and implementation considerations in different school contexts. Please contact cap@ais.wa.edu.au for any Curriculum support matters.

Singapore Immersion Tour for Primary Leaders



We are excited to offer a week long [professional learning immersion tour to Singapore](#) for Heads of Primary and Early Years Curriculum Leaders with responsibility for K-6 Curriculum Leadership, taking place 12–17 April 2027.

The tour will provide a unique opportunity to explore Early Years and Primary leadership, pedagogy and workforce development through school visits, expert presentations, professional reflection and cultural experiences. Participants will engage with Singaporean education leaders and settings, consider how international approaches could inform their own practice, and build valuable connections with colleagues from across AISWA schools.

With school visits, facilitated reflection, professional networking and cultural experiences including a private food tour and visit to ArtScience Museum, the tour promises to be a rich and practical professional learning experience.

[Expressions of interest](#) are now open. This is a fantastic opportunity for leaders to step outside their usual context, strengthen networks, gain fresh perspectives and return with ideas and inspiration to support Early Years and Primary leadership and practice in their schools.

ConnectED for Early Career Teachers - Term 3

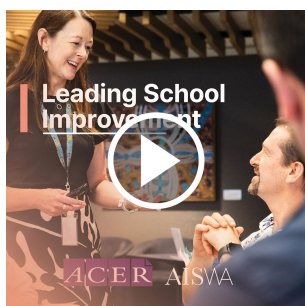


Now in its second year, the ConnectED program continues to offer rich opportunities for learning, reflection and networking for the Early Career teachers involved. St Hilda's Anglican School for Girls were fantastic hosts for the Term 3 gathering, and shared their approach to student leadership development, as well as personal stories of professional growth. We look forward to our final day together with this group in term 4.

AISWA provides significant support for Early Career Teachers and mentors of ECTs, in their first five years of teaching. Please contact us at cap@ais.wa.edu.au for further information.

Leading School Improvement with the ACER School Improvement Tool

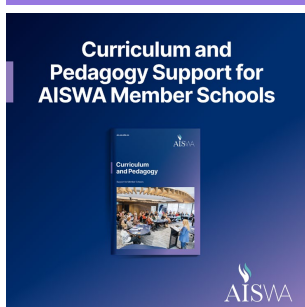
Effective school improvement requires more than identifying what needs to change – it requires a clear, evidence-informed approach to understanding priorities and driving sustainable improvement.



AISWA's [Leading School Improvement Using the ACER School Improvement Tool](#) professional learning program being held **29-30 October** will support school leaders to explore how the ACER School Improvement Tool (SIT) can be used to strengthen improvement planning, identify areas for development and build a shared understanding of effective school improvement practices.

This practical two-day program is suited to Principals, Deputy Principals, sub-school leaders and other staff with responsibility for leading school improvement. Schools are encouraged to attend as a team to maximise opportunities to apply the tool within their own context.

Curriculum & Pedagogy Directory Booklet



The new Curriculum & Pedagogy (CAP) Directorate booklet showcases the extensive range of programs, projects and services available to support Member Schools. The booklet highlights evidence-informed professional learning, consultancy and tailored support across School Leadership, Early Childhood, Primary Education, Curriculum, School Improvement, AI in Education, and more. Designed to build capacity and support sustainable improvement, the directory demonstrates how AISWA partners with schools to deliver meaningful, context-responsive outcomes for educators, leaders and their communities.

[Read the booklet here.](#)

HIPS 2.0



AISWA's HIPs 2.0 program empowers teachers and school leaders with practical, evidence-informed strategies that improve student engagement, learning and achievement. Covering areas such as Explicit Teaching, Metacognition, Feedback, Daily Review, Engagement Norms and Intentional Learning Design, HIPs 2.0 supports schools to build a shared approach to high-quality teaching and learning.

Looking for deeper impact? AISWA also offers tailored 12-month in-school consultancy programs and HIPs 2.0 Enrich workshops that provide extended learning in priority areas such as Feedback, Metacognition and Differentiation. Contact [Gary Racey](#) to discuss a customised HIPs 2.0 pathway for your school.

Welcome StoryboxHub



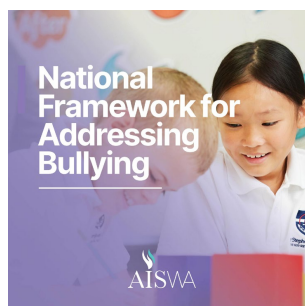
AISWA is pleased to share with you that we have entered into a new partnership agreement with StoryBox Hub.

The partnership is centred around an enterprise-level pricing structure that AISWA has negotiated on behalf of all Independent schools in Western Australia. What would normally cost (on average) \$7.20 per student, is now just **\$3 per student**. The saving is even larger for small schools.

StoryBox Hub is Australia's leading digital storytelling and literacy platform, comprised of subscription based educational website for children to view stories by local authors and illustrators, being read aloud by Australian storytellers, and story writing series that helps students in grades 3-6 master the mechanics of storytelling. More information on Storybox Hub and the offers available to AISWA Member Schools can be found on the [AISWA Website](#). There you will also find the opportunity to register for a free trial and discover more tools and resources that Storybox Hub has to offer.

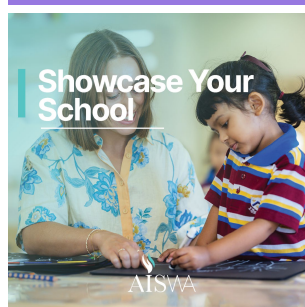
National Bullying Framework

On [16 September](#), AISWA shared a range of resources to support Member Schools in preparing for the implementation of the National Framework for Addressing Bullying in Australian Schools. The resources include updated



guidelines, practical implementation tools and wellbeing-focused supports to assist schools in reviewing policies, procedures and approaches ahead of the 2027 school year. Schools seeking guidance or wishing to discuss any aspect of the Framework and supporting resources are encouraged to contact [Trish Jakovich](#), Wellbeing Consultant, or [Michele Blacklock](#), Senior Psychologist.

Independent School Photos



AISWA is inviting Independent Schools to help us once again highlight incredible learning, teaching and vibrant activities happening everyday across our sector. Your contributions play a vital role in showcasing the excellence and diversity of WA's Independent Schools. We are looking for high-quality images and videos that capture the everyday moments at your school.

Please upload high resolution images and videos into the [linked folder](#), or contact [Louise Muhling](#), AISWA Marketing and Communications Manager for further information.

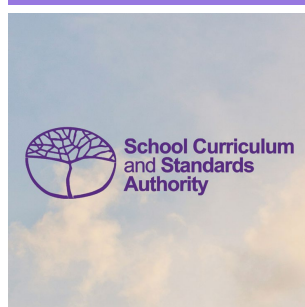
New Online Communities for VET and NAPLAN



The [VET & Careers Online Community](#) serves as a comprehensive resource centre for VET, Careers, and Workplace Learning materials. It supports collaboration among VET and Careers staff through a discussion forum, where Members can submit questions and request guidance from AISWA Consultants and colleagues at other schools.

The [NAPLAN Coordinators Online Learning Community](#) is a space for key updates, resources and collaboration throughout the NAPLAN cycle. Inside you'll find updates, professional learning opportunities, OLN guidance and FAQs, along with a discussion forum with colleagues across schools.

Key SCSA updates



Tertiary Preparation Endorsed Programs (TPEPs) are endorsed programs developed by tertiary education providers to help students prepare for future tertiary study. From 2027, revised WACE requirements will apply to students enrolled in a TPEP. To have a TPEP contribute towards WACE achievement, students must also complete at least one Year 12 ATAR course. To support member schools with limited ATAR course offerings, AISWA is exploring opportunities for WA Independent Schools to access the Virtual School Network (VSN), currently delivered through Catholic Education Western Australia. For more information, email cap@ais.wa.edu.au

Professional Learning Opportunities

Curriculum and Pedagogy

For further information on the upcoming Professional Learning opportunities listed below, please click the links provided in the table. For additional information and a full list of 2026 PL and Event opportunities, you can also search the calendar [here](#).

Event Date

Title

Register by

Curriculum and School Improvement

13 October	Early Childhood Breakfast Network	6 October
13 October	Early Childhood Breakfast Network (Webinar)	6 October
21 October	Seeing the World Through Play: Understanding Schemas in Early Childhood with Lynnette Brock	14 October
16 October	Highly Accomplished and Lead Teacher Network	9 October
22 October	AI for Educators: From Efficiency to Innovation	15 October
23 October	Building Teacher Confidence in the WA Maths Curriculum	16 October
23 October	Secondary Media Production and Analysis with CEWA	16 October
26 October	Planning and Assessment Using the Kindergarten Guidelines	19 October
27 October	Literacy Bites	20 October
Day 1: 29 October Day 2: 30 October	Leading School Improvement Using the ACER School Improvement Tool	22 October
30 October	Secondary English Planning Day with CEWA	23 October
2 November	Southwest Secondary Science Curriculum Network	26 October
5 November	Purposeful Assessment in Primary Classrooms	29 October
9 November	Honing Philosophy Statements and Quality Improvement Plans with Sam Wynne	2 November
13 November	Secondary Dance Network Day with CEWA	6 November
16 November	Secondary Drama Network Day with CEWA	9 November
16 November	Leading AI Adoption	9 November
20 November	Term 4 VET and Careers Network Meeting	13 November
27 November	HASS Network Day with CEWA	20 November
23 November	Secondary Music Network Day with CEWA	16 November
27 November	Secondary Visual Arts Network Day with CEWA	20 November
Governance and Business Operations		
13 October	Funding Unpacked: What Business Managers Need to Know	6 October
14 October	Business Managers Masterclass: Risk Ready. Practical Insights and Strategies	7 October
14 October	Business Managers Masterclass: Risk Ready. Practical Insights and Strategies (Webinar)	7 October
28 October	Migrating School Security to the Cloud: What You Need to Know	21 October
2 November	Business Managers Masterclass: AI Tools for Streamlining the Business Managers Day	26 October

2 November	Business Managers Masterclass: AI Tools for Streamlining the Business Managers Day (Webinar)	26 October
18 November	School Registration Seminar	11 November
Leadership and Development		
16 October	Highly Accomplished and Lead Teacher Network	9 October
30 October	Middle Leader Masterclass: Leading your Team in Family-School Partnerships	23 October
11 November	Middle Leader Masterclass: Leading Curriculum and Pedagogy	4 November
20 November	Bold Talk: Mastering Communication and Courageous Conversations for Leaders	13 November
Day 1: 26 November Day 2: 27 November	Aspiring Leaders	20 November
School and Student Support		
14 October	When Students Push Our Buttons: Staying Relational Under Pressure	7 October
15 October	Inclusive Education Symposium	8 October
3 November	Managing Critical Incidents: School Based Incident Strategies	27 October
1 December	Wellbeing Network Series: Practical Wellbeing (Pre Kindergarten to Year 12)	24 November

Notice Board



Creative Learning Collaboration Program

Grants of up to **\$60,000** are now available through the Creative Learning Collaboration Program to support creative arts-based projects that connect WA schools with arts organisations and creative practitioners. The program encourages imagination, reflection, questioning and immersive learning experiences beyond the traditional classroom.

WA schools can apply in partnership with eligible arts and culture organisations, creative practitioners, local governments and not-for-profit organisations.

Applications close at 4pm on Thursday 15 October 2026. For more information, contact the Creative Learning team at creativelearning@cits.wa.gov.au or (08) 6552 7400.

Become a CBCA Book of the Year Awards Judge

The Children's Book Council of Australia (CBCA) is seeking applications for judges for the [2027 Book of the Year Awards](#). Judges play an important role in recognising and celebrating the best of Australian children's literature, drawing on their knowledge and expertise to select outstanding books from hundreds of entries. Successful applicants will receive a \$1,000 honorarium upon completion of the judging year. Applications, including a CV, should not exceed 500 words. Applications close Friday 30 October 2026.

SCSA is offering [professional learning](#) for teachers focused on **The Pinjarra Massacre: Truth-telling**, supporting the implementation of mandated Year 5 and Year 9 History curriculum content. The sessions will explore the teaching and learning exemplars developed around the 2025 apology to the Bindjareb Noongar people and provide an opportunity for educators to deepen their understanding of this significant period in Western Australian history. The professional learning will examine approaches to teaching colonisation and the 1834 Pinjarra Massacre with an emphasis on **historical accuracy, cultural respect and trauma-informed practice**. Participants will explore how cultural

knowledge, primary sources and contemporary resources can support confident, respectful and meaningful learning experiences for students.

Following the success of last year's Smartphone and Social Media Symposium, Hale School is hosting an upcoming [Student Voice Symposium](#) on Wednesday 28 October, exploring how schools can strengthen student voice and nurture student leadership. The one-day symposium will feature a keynote from Professor Donna Cross (UWA), practitioner-led workshops, case studies and a panel discussion involving school leaders and students.

Secondary Professional Experience Placements - ECU

From time to time, AISWA receives requests from universities seeking support from member schools to provide professional experience placements for pre-service teachers. Edith Cowan University is currently seeking **secondary placements** for upcoming professional experience periods commencing on **12 October 2026**, as well as a smaller number of secondary placements commencing on **2 November 2026** and **9 November 2026**. If your school is able to assist, please contact **Sarah Jefferson** at ECU directly via sarah.jefferson@ecu.edu.au

Middle leaders play a critical role in schools, often navigating competing expectations between senior leadership and their teaching colleagues. [Navigating the Tensions of Middle Leadership](#) is a free interactive twilight workshop presented by Curtin University's Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis Research Cluster, exploring current research, key tensions experienced by middle leaders and practical strategies to support leadership practice. Suitable for middle leaders across early childhood, primary and secondary contexts, the session will be held at **Bunbury Senior High School on Thursday 5 November, 4:15–6:15pm**, and provides an opportunity to learn, collaborate and connect with colleagues across schools and sectors.

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

Thanks to our Pillar Partners

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**ngs
Super**

COLE
School Experts



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