

# Latest News

## Curriculum and Pedagogy



ASSOCIATION of INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS of WESTERN AUSTRALIA

## WELCOME

Last [month](#), we introduced you to some exciting new updates to our service spread across our three teams, Curriculum and School Improvement, Early Childhood, and Leadership and Teaching Excellence. These teams lead various programs and initiatives across multiple discipline areas and are available to support schools in a variety of ways.

For in-school professional learning requests (where we come to you) please contact us [here](#).

For general enquiries, please email our team [here](#). Alternatively, please reach out to one of our team members directly.

This month also features a unique opportunity for Principals and Senior Leaders – Learning in London, International Study Tour in the September/October holidays. I invite you to consider the benefits of engaging with this remarkable learning experience and would be happy to provide any further information.

Please be in touch if I can assist you in any way.

[Kris Stafford](#)  
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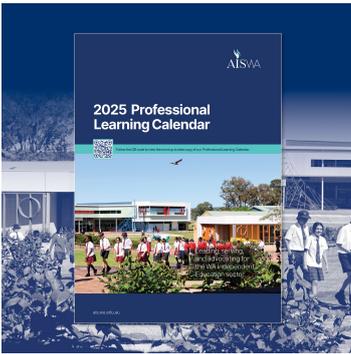
## NEWSLETTER CONTENTS

In this edition you can read about:

- SCSA News.
- NAPLAN Update.
- Proposed International Study Tour for Principals and Senior Leaders.
- Early Childhood News.
- Year 9 Career Taster Program.
- High-Impact Practices.
- Upcoming Professional Learning Opportunities.
- The Literature Centre.

- Make Your Own Story Book Awards.

## REMINDER - 2025 PROFESSIONAL LEARNING CALENDAR



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.

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

## CURRICULUM MATERIALS



The following curriculum materials are available for familiarisation:

- [Humanities and Social Sciences](#)
- [Mathematics](#)
- [Science](#)
- [Technologies](#) and [Digital Technologies](#)

Schools must continue to teach the current (Version 8) Western Australian curriculum for these courses. The 2025 school year is designated for teacher familiarisation with the revised content, with full implementation scheduled for 2026.

## NAPLAN UPDATE



NAPLAN assessments will be held between **Wednesday, 12 March and Monday, 24 March 2025.**

- More information related to NAPLAN including information for parents and carers, past results and reports can be accessed [here](#).
- Principals can register for the Online National Assessment Platform **from 25 March - 29 April 2025** [here](#).
- Schools can enrol students in Year 6 and Year 10 to participate in NAP Opt-in assessments in the curriculum areas of Science Literacy and Civics and Citizenship.
- From 2026 Information and Communication Technology Literacy will also be added.
- The related assessments are provided by ACARA, who also mark the assessments, analyse the data, and provide school-level reports which are not made publicly available. Schools self-administer the assessments between 5 May – 30 May 2025. For more information please click [here](#).

## INTERNATIONAL STUDY TOUR



## Proposed International Study Tour for Principals and Senior Leaders

We are excited to announce a proposed AISWA Study Tour planned for the September/October holidays this year.

This will be a unique opportunity to be immersed in a world-class school leadership program in London, designed to inspire fresh perspectives and practical insights.

For information and to register, please follow this [link](#).

If you have any questions, please contact our tour organisers [Kris Stafford](#) or [Helen Aguiar](#).

## EARLY CHILDHOOD NEWS



### New Early Childhood Team Member

A big welcome to Debbie Bolton to the Early Childhood team. Many of you will know Debbie through her leadership of the Junior School at Carmel or her participation in many of the AISWA Early Childhood projects and publications. Debbie will lead several targeted projects and is available to support schools in National Quality Standards, early childhood pedagogy and leadership, and mentoring of early career teachers and early childhood leaders.

### Small Scale Grants

Applications for small scale grants were processed and approved late 2024. Payments were made to all schools in mid-December. This means that your project is fully funded and ready to be implemented. If you require a copy of your project application or confirmation of payment, please contact [Janelle Dickinson](#).

For more Early Childhood news, click [here](#).

## YEAR 9 CAREER TASTER PROGRAM - GRANTS



AISWA schools are invited to apply for a grant to go towards costs of a Year 9 career taster activity.

Similar to VET Funding, the grants will be retrospective and based on what has been spent on attending certain events, resources, excursions, and/or incursions.

Examples of funding include:

- Relief-teaching costs.
- Transport costs for students attending Taster Activities.
- Costs of in-school incursions & related projects.
- Personal Protective Equipment for Taster Activities.
- Online programs to support remote and regional schools.
- Costs of resources for school activities.

If your school is interested in obtaining a grant, please contact [Wade McLeod](#).

## HIGH-IMPACT PRACTICES



This program of high-impact instructional strategies is for teams of primary and/or secondary classroom teachers and leaders.

Schools can nominate up to 10 teachers who work as a collegiate group throughout the program.

These groups engage in professional conversations to unpack the theory and evidence, observe practice examples, self-reflect on current practice, provide support for one another, and translate new, refreshed or consolidated learnings in classrooms.

For more information please contact [Sarah Wells](#) or [Clare Slyth](#).

## 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 2025 PL and Event opportunities, you can also search the calendar [here](#).

Event Date	Title	
<b>Curriculum and School Improvement</b>		
28 March	<a href="#">VET &amp; Careers Network Meeting - Registrations will open at the end of February, so save the date!</a>	TBC
31 March	<a href="#">Sharp Reading: Teaching Reading to the Beginning Reader</a>	Register by 24 March
Day 1 - 4 April Day 2 - 28 July	<a href="#">High Impact Teaching Strategies for Mathematics</a>	Register by 28 March
7 April	<a href="#">High Impact Practices (HIPS)</a>	Register by 31 March
8 April	<a href="#">High Impact Practices (HIPS)</a>	Register by 1 April
Online Learning	<a href="#">Introduction to Mentoring</a>	Register by 28 June
<b>Governance and Business Operations</b>		
14 March	<a href="#">Governance Specifics in an Independent School</a>	Register by 7 March
18 March	<a href="#">School Registration Seminar</a>	Register by 11 March
<b>Leadership and Development</b>		
12 March - Information Session Day 1 - 3 April Day 2 - 18 June	<a href="#">Women in Leadership Program with ACEL</a>	Register by 5 March

## Day 3 - 4 September

Day 1 - 14 March Day 2 - 13 June Day 3 - 5 September	<a href="#">New and Early Career Principals Network</a>	Register by 7 March
19 March	<a href="#">National Certification of Highly Accomplished and Lead Teachers</a>	Register by 12 March
27 March	<a href="#">Early Career Teachers Program - Semester 1 Intake</a>	Register by 17 March
2 April	<a href="#">Managing Public Relations Risks in Schools: Essential Media Training</a>	Register by 26 March

## School and Student Support

4 March	<a href="#">Keeping Safe: Child Protection Curriculum Training</a>	Register by 25 February
7 March	<a href="#">Teaching Autistic Students</a>	Register by 1 March
Day 1 - 10 March Day 2 - 11 March	<a href="#">Gatekeeper Suicide Prevention Training</a>	Register by 3 March
13 March	<a href="#">Team Teach Training</a>	Register by 6 March
26 March	<a href="#">Trauma Aware Education</a>	Register by 19 March
13 March	<a href="#">Team Teach Training</a>	Register by 6 March
Day 1 - 31 March Day 2 - 1 April	<a href="#">Youth Mental Health First Aid</a>	Register by 24 March

## THE LITERATURE CENTRE

The Literature Centre delivers tailored [creative learning workshops](#) for Western Australian students from Pre-Primary to Year 12.



Led by expert Creative Learning Associates and acclaimed Australian authors and illustrators, workshops are designed to inspire young minds while aligning with classroom learning objectives.

Bookings for 2025 are now open [here](#).

## LOVE OF BOOKS



## Make Your Own Story Book Awards

- Calling all budding young writers and artists...
- For more info and advice about the Make Your Own Story Book Awards view the webpage and author/illustrator Sean Avery's helpful videos [here](#).
- Many schools make this Award part of their class activities, but individual entries are also accepted.
- Please direct any enquiries to [Denise Robins](#).

## Children's Book Council of Australia

- The Children's Book Council of Australia marks its 80th birthday in 2025.
- You are invited to join the celebrations on Friday 14 March - A Night with Our Stars. Bookings are now open [here](#).
- The Book of the Year winners, Kelly Canby and Briony Stewart, have generously donated original pieces of artwork from their 2024 medal winning books – *Timeless* and *Gymnastica Fantastica* – for [silent auction](#).

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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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