



Our Ref: 2022/4808

To the Principal
All Western Australian Schools

Dear Principals

I would like to take this opportunity to write to you as the new chair of the School Curriculum and Standards Authority (Authority). In accepting this appointment by the Honourable Sue Ellery, Minister for Education and Training, I recognise the outstanding legacy of leadership of our recently retired Chair, Emeritus Professor Patrick Garnett. Patrick chaired the Board of the Authority from 2011 and his steady hand, and calm and considered manner, has served the Board, and in turn all schools in Western Australia, very well.

Having served for several years as an Authority Board member and Chairperson of the Audit and Risk Committee, I am very well aware of the work that is in front of us.

I recognise the amount of work that schools, together with school education systems and sectors are doing to support the ongoing delivery of learning opportunities to our students. It is clear in these challenging times that we will all need to remain agile and responsive to the varying conditions that we find ourselves in over the course of this year.

As you would be aware, over the course of the past two years the Authority has developed, numerous contingency plans, and consulted with principal's advisory committees on these. These plans can be implemented should the conditions in which we work change over the course of the school year. I urge you all to consult the COVID-19 section of the Authority website at www.scsa.wa.edu.au where we have updated information for the start of this year. This section of the Authority website will be our primary means of communication with you.

We will also provide Principal's WebEx briefings only when absolutely necessary. We are also continuing to plan for the delivery of a series of Roadshow meetings, with the option of running these on multiple occasions using WebEx as a contingency.

The experience that the Authority has developed supporting our international schools in delivering ATAR courses in extremely challenging COVID-19 circumstances ensures we are well prepared for 2022. We will continue to work with school education systems and sectors and our stakeholders to maintain a shared understanding of the processes that schools will need to be following as the conditions over the course of the year vary. I urge you to maintain contact with the staff of the Authority and to avail yourself of the info@ service, so we are able to provide you and your staff responses as efficiently as possible.

It is our intention to continue with our work plans, including the review of some senior secondary courses and supporting schools to ensure that our student's achievements are recognised and results remain accurate and robust. Again, we will adjust our methods of working as the conditions vary.

I wish you all the very best for 2022, knowing that school leadership teams and teachers are well skilled and responsive to varying conditions and challenges of our work lives. I look forward to communicating with you again over the course of the year.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P White', written in a cursive style.

Pauline White
CHAIR

14 February 2022