



Strong Partnerships for a better future

Quality Teaching is essential to the success of our students

Our vision

A highly skilled, educated, vibrant and inclusive NSW, where all people achieve their potential, build social and economic prosperity, participate in activities that contribute to their wellbeing, and contribute as informed citizens to our society.



Priority Action Areas

Leadership & management

Our schools require excellent leaders who will demonstrate instructional leadership with efficient management practices that lead creative, innovative schools with positive learning cultures.

Curriculum & Assessment

We will be focussing on an Australian Curriculum supported by quality teaching, student centred frameworks, quality professional learning and curriculum breadth and access for all students.

Engagement & Attainment

All of our students will be highly engaged and interested in their learning in a high expectation environment.

Literacy and Numeracy

We will focus on the support for literacy and numeracy achievement in our schools so that all students can reach their potential.

Aboriginal education

We will create a range of opportunities for all Aboriginal students to experience successful learning.

Organisational effectiveness

Local Schools, Local Decisions will allow us to look at the effective organisation of schools, and implement reforms to better meet the needs of schools, students and their communities.

Our outcomes

In early childhood

All children will receive high quality early childhood education and care to give them a great start in life and at school.

At school

All children will receive quality teaching and support to learn, achieve and progress.

In tertiary education

We'll equip students with the skills and knowledge for successful participation in employment and their communities, ensuring easier transitions, especially to higher education.

In our communities

We will build strong partnerships between schools and the broader local community.



Public Schools NSW Strategic Directions 2012-2014

Students are at the centre of what we do. Our goal is to improve education and learning outcomes for all students.
Teachers are a key factor impacting on student learning.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

KEY STRATEGIES

The schools portfolio will support regions and schools by:

The Public Schools NSW Strategic Directions articulate what the schools portfolio will do to support regions and schools in ensuring that every student in NSW public schools has access to quality teachers and quality learning.

The Strategic Directions support continuous school improvement and maximising outcomes for students in a culture of informed, well supported decision making.

The Strategic Directions have undergone an extensive consultation process and are informed by data and evidence and have evolved from the **State Plan** and the **Department of Education and Communities Five Year Strategic Plan 2011–2016**.

Regional plans and school plans reflect the directions that have been articulated in this document.

LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT

Leadership development and management capacity
Innovation and creativity
Positive learning cultures
Management practices and accountability
Instructional leadership

Developing an innovative, competency based professional learning program for educational leaders at all levels.

Developing high quality registered learning programs to improve quality teaching, leadership and management.

Liaising and working collaboratively with other portfolios to design and implement flexible approaches to recruitment, staff selection and performance management and development.

CURRICULUM AND ASSESSMENT

Innovative practices for 21st century learners and learning
Quality teaching framework
Student centred learning
New syllabuses incorporating the Australian curriculum
Quality professional learning
Curriculum breadth and access for all students

Developing a suite of strategies to increase and support personalised learning approaches for all students.

Strengthening evidence based practice in assessment and feedback to improve students' learning.

Providing professional learning and resources to support the implementation of new syllabuses for all staff.

Providing professional learning and curriculum support for leaders and staff to integrate technology and strengthen differentiated teaching and learning practices to meet the needs of diverse learners.

Developing policies and delivering professional learning to support innovative approaches in all schools with an immediate focus on secondary schools.

ENGAGEMENT AND ATTAINMENT

Quality teaching practices by quality teachers and leaders to engage all students
Intervention in early years and at key transition points
Community engagement and partnership
National Safe Schools Framework
National Partnerships
Student Support Officers
Learning Support Framework

Ensuring policies are developed with evidenced-based strategies and professional learning to improve:

- the engagement and performance of all students within a safe, challenging and supportive learning environment
- student access to a broad and differentiated curriculum including vocational education training (VET)

Strengthening retention and transition programs in schools.

Strengthening and expanding partnerships with other organisations, agencies and community groups.

LITERACY AND NUMERACY

Achievement levels of students in rural areas
Achievement levels of Aboriginal students
Evidence based practices, programs and professional learning
Explicit targets in literacy and numeracy for each school
Explicit targets for student achievement in the higher bands in NAPLAN NSW
Government Literacy and Numeracy Action Plan

Incorporating curriculum leadership as part of leadership professional development programs.

Developing policies and strategic approaches to improve literacy and numeracy achievement across all stages of schooling.

Implement the Government's Literacy and Numeracy Action Plan.

Identifying and promoting gifted and talented strategies with effective evidence based teaching practices for students in higher bands.

ABORIGINAL EDUCATION

Readiness for school
Engagement and connections
Attendance
Literacy and numeracy improvement
Leadership, quality teaching and workforce development
Pathways to real post school options

Engaging with business, universities, TAFE and other education providers to design and broker new opportunities for post school work and learning pathways.

Developing and supporting early intervention programs to improve readiness for school.

Partnering with AECG in the implementation of Connecting to Country in all focus schools.

Developing policy and strategies in the explicit use of ESL strategies for Aboriginal students in all focus schools.

Developing policy and strategies for gifted and talented students.

Developing policies and supporting professional learning programs to improve the cultural awareness and leadership and teaching effectiveness of our staff.

Supporting high expectations, retention and pathways for Aboriginal students through the provision of rich data, models of effective practice and professional learning programs.

ORGANISATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS

Innovative business and educational programs, systems and initiatives
Research, policy analysis and effective advocacy
Effective liaison within DEC to support flexible service delivery for schools in finance, human resources and integrated systems
Evidence based systems, structures and practices to meet the needs of all students
Public Schools NSW strategic directions to inform regional, school and other DEC portfolio plans

Strengthening planning, research and innovation capacity within the schools portfolio.

Developing a comprehensive strategy that widely engages curriculum expertise and innovative systems and delivery.

Realigning State Office functions to support and deliver the schools portfolio strategic priorities.

Reviewing and revising the accountability framework of performance management and cyclic reviews.

Conducting research and policy analysis in rural and regional education, innovative models of schooling provision, curriculum delivery, leadership and staffing.

Reviewing and refocusing secondary education and identifying effective, evidence based systems, structures and practices to meet the needs of all students.

Leading technology infrastructure planning to support innovation in the use of technologies.

Engaging regions in discussions concerning realignment of systems to support strategic priorities.

