



This presentation will commence at 3:30pm

Music by Josh Woodward (Creative Commons use)



Revised ACE Rules for RoSA & HSC

Briefing for Heads and School Leaders

13 June 2024



The Association of
Independent Schools
of New South Wales

Photo courtesy of Toongabbie Christian School

AGENDA

1. NESA presentation

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Senior Manager, Curriculum and Assessment Policy

Margot Braithwaite
Head of Liaison Unit

2. Q&A

SLIDO
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5. AISNSW Support

Caraline Cloke
Head of Regulation and Accreditation

Assessment Certification Examination (ACE) Rules

Erin Stott
Senior Manager, Curriculum and Assessment Policy

June 2024

Agenda

Project overview and milestones

Content clarifications

Website solution

Timelines and next steps

Additional resources

Project overview

Assessment Certification Examination (ACE)

- NESAs have rules that govern the curriculum, assessment and credentialing requirements across schools.
- These rules and requirements are collectively known as the Assessment Certification Examination (ACE) Rules
- The ACE Rules uphold the fairness, integrity and credibility of the HSC and RoSA
- It has been more than 20 years since the rules were reviewed, when the 'new' HSC was introduced.

Clarifications to the ACE Rules

Old rules

- Fragmented and unclear presentation of NESAs requirements
- Current rules are a combination of information, advice, guidance, and enforceable rules
- Unclear roles and responsibilities
- Unnecessary technical language (eg 'standard' and 'non-standard' disability provisions).

New rules

- Removes ambiguous, outdated or duplicated material
- Strengthens the enforceability of a rule ('must' vs. 'may')
- Frames rules around the roles and responsibilities of schools and NESAs
- Moves most non-enforceable, advisory content to NESAs website, and providing links to other ACE Rules and webpages.

Content clarifications

Rule groupings

Clarified themes of ACE rules have been organised into 14 groups for ease of navigation

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Achieving a RoSA / HSC | 8. HSC exam operations |
| 2. Assessment, results and appeals | 9. HSC minimum standard |
| 3. Course commencement, entries and eligibility | 10. Illness/misadventure and appeals |
| 4. Course completions, non-completions and appeals | 11. Life Skills |
| 5. Curriculum requirements | 12. Pattern of study |
| 6. Disability provisions and appeals | 13. Students with atypical circumstances |
| 7. Integrity of assessment and exams | 14. VET |

Example: HSC Minimum Standard

Minimum standard test attempts

Timing of minimum standard tests, the maximum number of attempts in each domain, and the waiting period between test attempts.

Exempt students

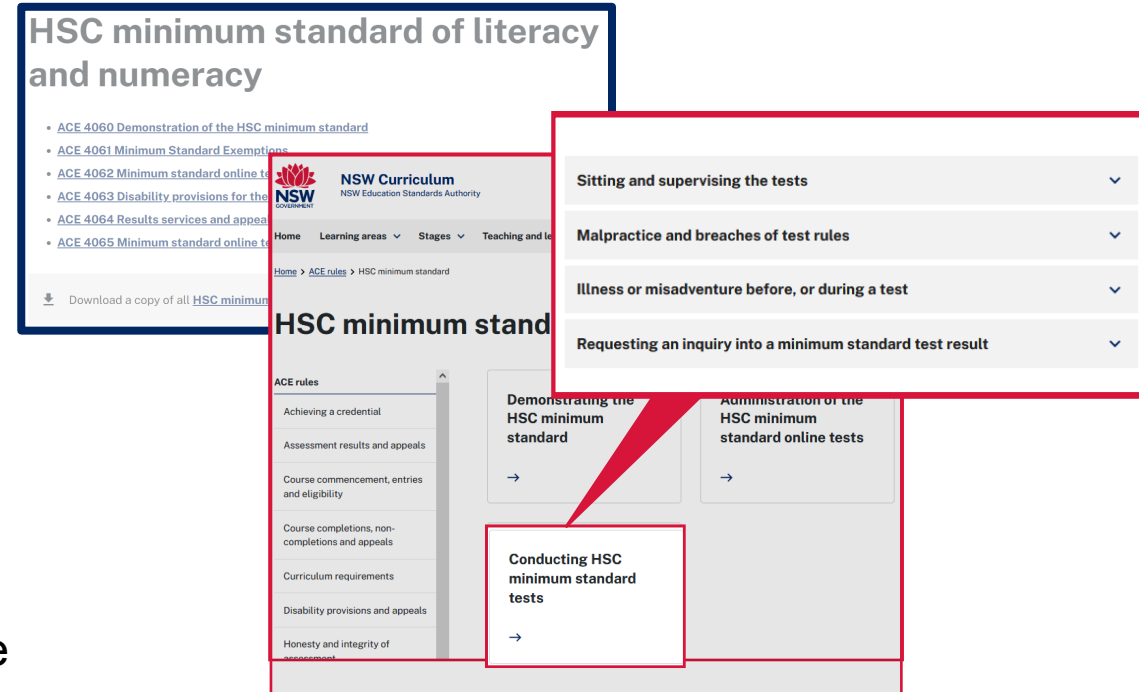
NESA has clarified the exemptions for students studying Stage 6 Life Skills courses.

Alternative evidence

Exceptional circumstances where a student may demonstrate the HSC minimum standard using alternative evidence.

Administration of the HSC minimum standard tests

Scheduling and entering students for tests, the equipment permitted during the test, and the requirements for supervising the tests.



Example: HSC Exam Operations

Presiding Officer eligibility and nomination

Clarified rules explicitly state requirements, including:

- Principal nomination
- Working with Children Check
- Exclusion of HSC tutors; child/near relative sitting for HSC; recent employment at school.

Roles and responsibilities

Examples of clarified school responsibilities include:

- Principal must work with Presiding Officer to meet NESA requirements
- Principals must arrange specific types of staff for some exams, such as music, EAL/D, and IT.

HSC exam timetable

- The ACE Rules clarify that the published timetable is final, and individual times and dates of exams are not subject to change to accommodate individual circumstances.

- [ACE 9008 Higher School Certificate examinations: accommodation](#)
- [ACE 9009 Higher School Certificate examinations: establishment of examination centres](#)
- [ACE 9010 Higher School Certificate examinations: timetables and equipment list](#)
- [ACE 9011 Higher School Certificate examinations: presiding officers, supervisors](#)
- [ACE 9012 Higher School Certificate examinations: eligibility for employment](#)
- [ACE 9013 Higher School Certificate examinations: setting up the examination centre](#)
- [ACE 9014 Higher School Certificate examinations: examination assistance from teaching staff](#)
- [ACE 9015 Higher School Certificate examinations: examination assistance from non-teaching staff](#)

7.1.1 Conducting HSC exams

7.1.2 Provision of accommodation as an exam centre or exam room

7.1.3 Approved exam equipment

7.1.4 Presiding Officers

7.1.5 HSC exam supervisors

HSC exam operations

ACE Rules

1. Achieving the RoSA / HSC

2. Assessment, results, and appeals

3. Course commencement, entries and eligibility

4. Course completions, non-completions and appeals

5. Curriculum requirements

6. Disability provisions and appeals

7. HSC exam operations

7.1 Conducting HSC exams

7.2 Completing HSC exams

Tiles View

List View

Example: Malpractice

Confirms minimum components of a malpractice policy

A school's malpractice policy must indicate:

- procedures for investigating suspected malpractice including the decision maker(s), and
- range of possible penalties for malpractice, and
- a student appeals process including the decision maker(s).

- [ACE 9022 Honesty in HSC Assessment – the Standard](#)
- [ACE 9023 Honesty in HSC assessment: what constitutes malpractice](#)
- [ACE 8072 Development of HSC school-based assessment programs](#)
- [ACE 4062 Minimum standard online tests](#)
- [ACE 8031 Credentiailling Higher School Certificate courses: non-completion \('N'\) withholding of courses by NESA](#)
- [ACE 8069 Higher School Certificate](#)

Integrity of HSC school-based exams

ACE Rules

1. Achieving the RoSA / HSC
2. Assessment, results, and appeals
3. Course commencement, entries and eligibility
4. Course completions, non-completions and appeals
5. Curriculum requirements
6. Disability provisions and appeals
7. HSC exam operations
8. HSC minimum standard

10.1 Malpractice



10.3 Non-serious attempts



- 10.1.1 Types of malpractice in HSC exams and HSC minimum standard tests
- 10.1.2 Developing a school malpractice policy
- 10.1.3 Reporting malpractice in school-based assessment
- 10.1.4 Malpractice in HSC exams and HSC minimum standard tests

Tiles View

List View

10.2 HSC: All My Own Work



Website

KPMG user testing and research

34 external users and 21 NESA staff took part in KPMG's user experience research:

Research response

- **98%** of users were in favour of the 14 thematic groupings of rules
- **90%** considered the 14 groupings to be easy to understand
- A robust search function was considered essential (coming to the website in 2024).

ACE on the digital curriculum site



NSW Curriculum
NSW Education Standards Authority

ACE Rules

Welcome to Assessment Certification Examination (ACE).

Filter ACE Rules

Showing results 1-14 of 14 results

- ☐ HSC (assessment)
- ☐ HSC credential
- ☐ HSC (curriculum)
- ☐ K-10
- ☐ Life Skills
- ☐ Malpractice
- ☐ Preliminary
- ☐ RoSA
- ☐ Schools Online
- ☐ VET

[Clear all filters](#)

Tiles View List View

1
Achieving the RoSA / HSC
→

2
Assessment, results, and appeals
→

3
Course commencement, entries and eligibility
→

4
Course completions, non-completions and appeals
→

5
Curriculum requirements
→

6
Disability provisions and appeals
→

7
HSC exam operations
→

8
HSC minimum standard
→

9
Illness/Misadventure and appeals
→

10
Integrity of HSC school-based assessment and exams
→

11
Life Skills
→

12
Pattern of study
→

13
Students with atypical circumstances
→

14
VET
→

Video walkthrough

Home page



Rule grouping



Individual rule




Supporting resources

Welcome to the NSW Curriculum website

[Give us your feedback](#)

[Go to the NESA website](#)



NSW Curriculum
NSW Education Standards Authority

[Home](#) [Learning areas](#) [Stages](#) [About the curriculum](#) [Resources](#) [Custom download/view](#) [ACE Rules](#)

[Home](#) > [ACE Rules](#)

ACE Rules

NESA has published clarified ACE Rules on the NSW Curriculum website. Stay up to date with the clarified ACE Rules by visiting this website.

The clarified rules come into effect from **14 October 2024**. Schools must not implement the clarified rules before this date. Schools must use the current ACE Rules on [ACE Online](#) until 14 October 2024.

To learn more about how NESA has clarified the ACE Rules, refer to the [information sheets](#).

ACE Rules

Welcome to Assessment Certification Examination (ACE).

Filter ACE Rules

☐ HSC (assessment)
☐ HSC credential
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☐ K-10
☐ Life Skills
☐ Malpractice
☐ Preliminary

Showing results 1-14 of 14 results

Tiles View **List View**

1

Achieving the RoSA / HSC

→

2

Assessment, results, and appeals

→

3

Course commencement, entries and eligibility

→

Timelines and next steps

Additional rules and approvals

- The majority of rules have been determined, but NESAs are continuing to work on rules for course completions, non-completions and appeals.
- NESAs will update schools when these rules have been published.

Timelines

- **14 October 2024 – Clarified rules mandated for students:**
 - Commencing HSC Courses in October 2024
 - Sitting for HSC Exams in 2025
 - Receiving the RoSA from October 2024
- **The current rules remain in place for the 2024 HSC**
- **NESA will continue to communicate to schools directly in Term 2 and Term 3**
- **We need the help of sectors to ensure the message gets to the right people in schools.**

Additional resources















'About' page and information sheets

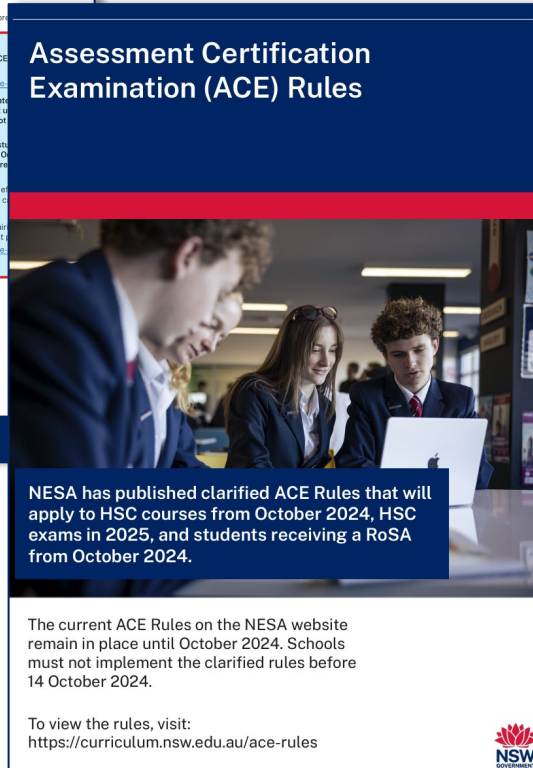
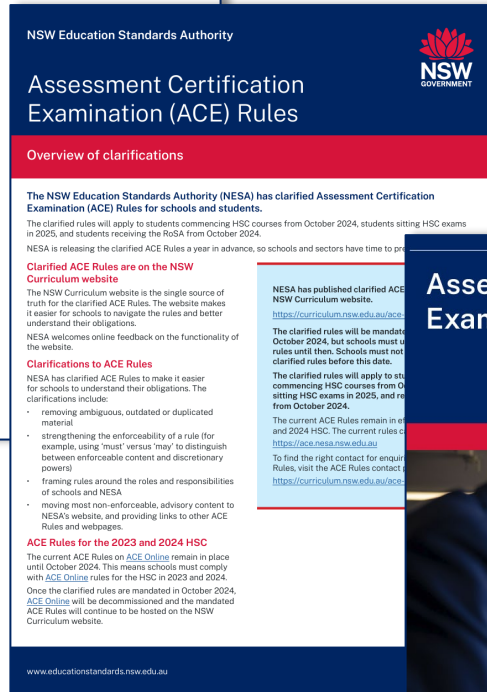
Welcome to Assessment Certification Examination (ACE)

ACE provides current information to principals, teachers, parents, and students about NESA's curriculum, assessment and credentialling requirements.

The clarified ACE Rules will be mandated on 14 October 2024.

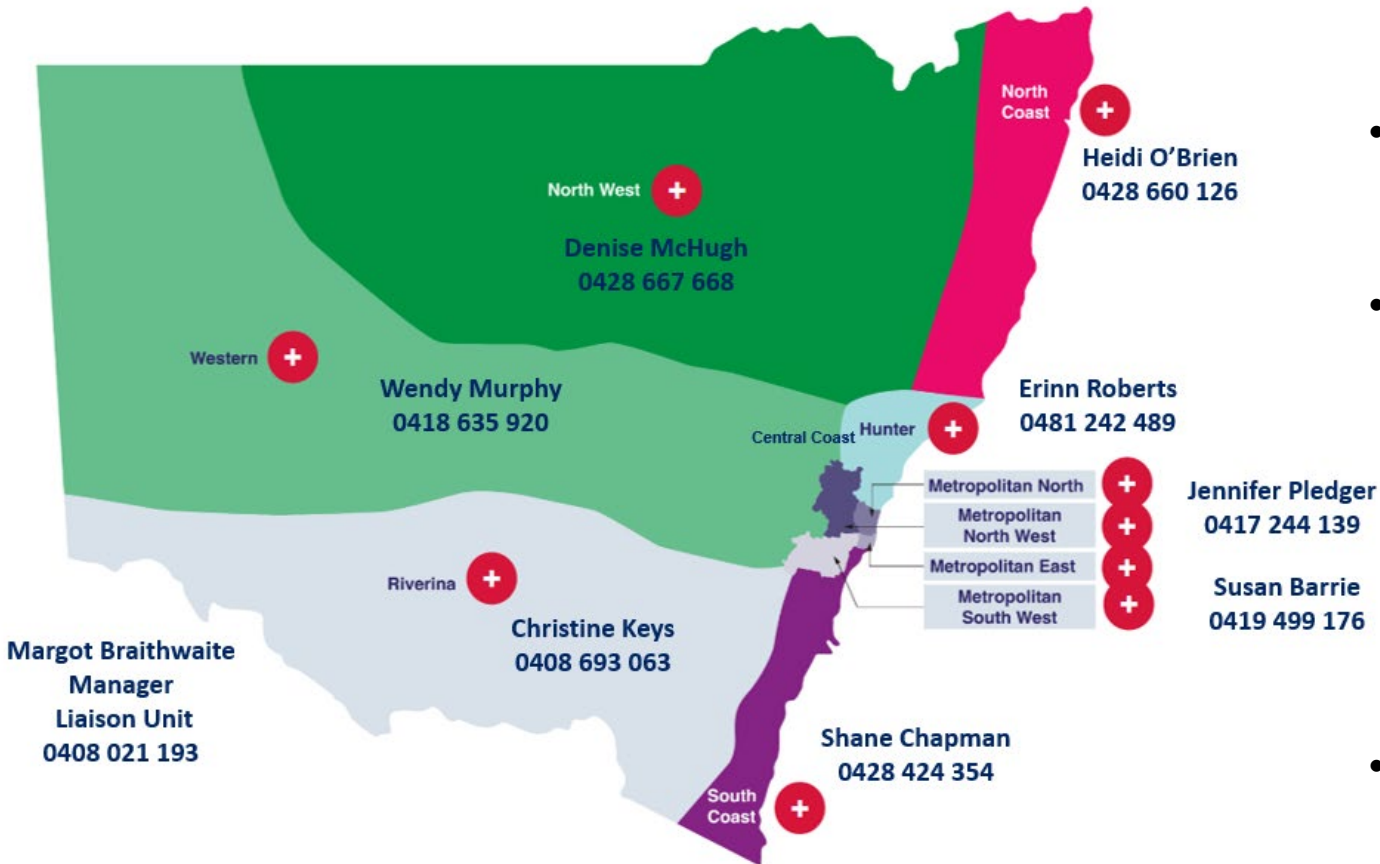
To learn more about how NESA has clarified the ACE Rules, refer to the information sheets for:

- [ACE Rules: Overview](#) 
- [Achieving the RoSA/HSC](#) 
- [Assessment, results, and appeals](#) 
- [Course commencement, entries and eligibility](#) 
- [Curriculum requirements](#) 
- [Disability provisions and appeals](#) 
- [HSC exam operations](#) 
- [HSC minimum standard](#) 
- [Illness/Misadventure and appeals](#) 
- [Integrity of HSC school-based assessment and exams](#) 
- [Life Skills](#) 
- [Pattern of study](#) 
- [Students with atypical circumstances](#) 
- [VET](#) 



- 'About' page contains additional information about clarified ACE rules:
curriculum.nsw.edu.au/ace-rules/about
- Information sheets have been developed for each rule grouping
- Poster and info card also available on website for in-school promotion.

Accredited Professional Development – NESA Liaison Officers

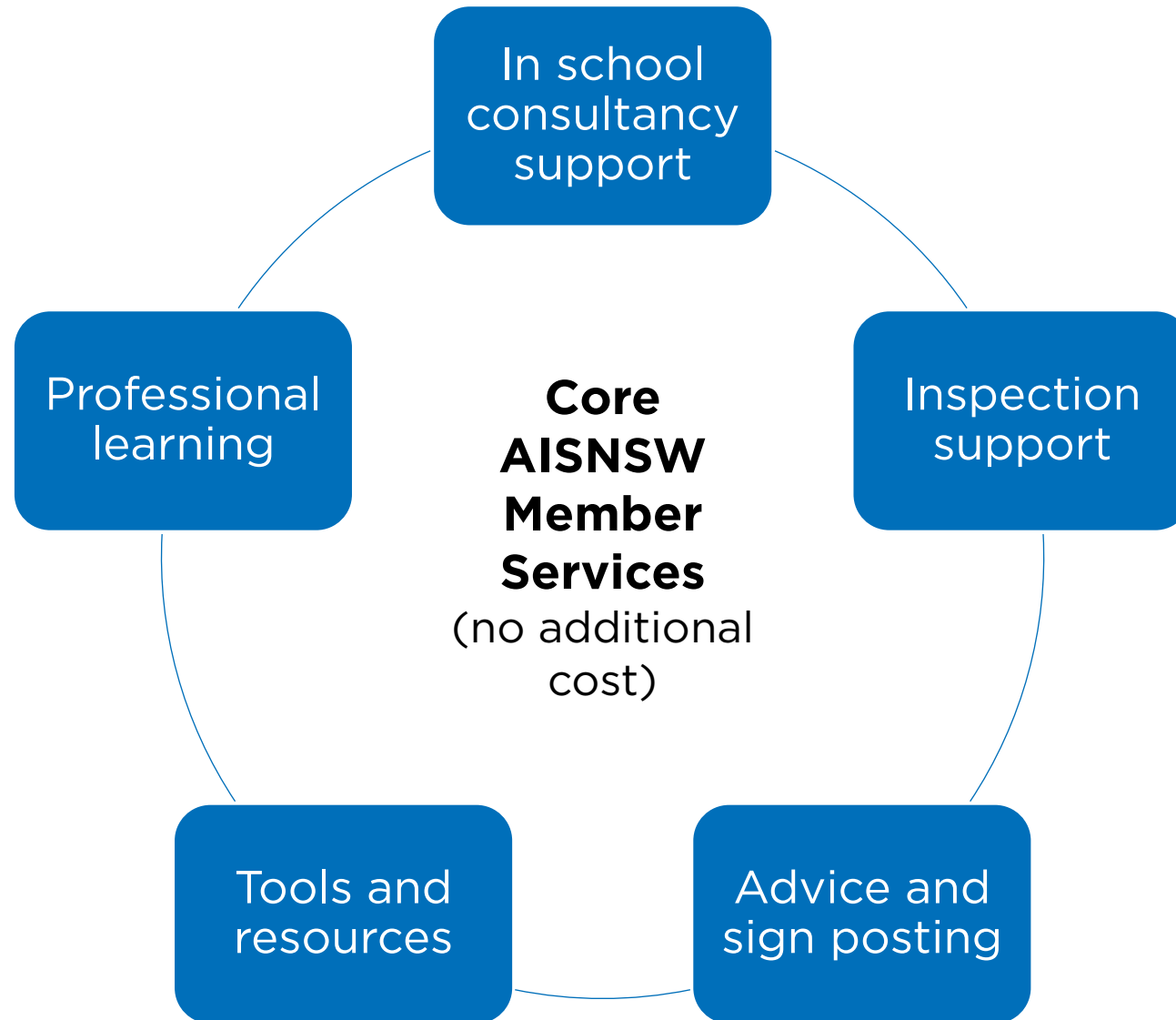


- NESA has developed **A Spotlight on Clarified ACE: Leading the Transition.**
- This professional development counts towards accreditation hours.
- Accredited PD in the priority area of **Leadership to support the learning outcomes of students/children** addressing Standard Descriptor **7.2.4** from the Australian Professional Standards for Teachers towards maintaining **Proficient Teacher or Highly Accomplished or Lead Teacher Accreditation** in NSW.
- Contact your local liaison officer for upcoming sessions.

A photograph of two hikers on a rocky mountain peak. One hiker, wearing a yellow jacket and a white helmet, is standing and reaching out to help another hiker who is sitting on the ground. The second hiker is wearing a red jacket and a red beanie. The background shows a vast, cloudy sky. The entire image has a blue tint.

AISNSW support

How AISNSW can support you and your school



Tools and Resources





[SCHOOL LEADERS](#) [TEACHERS AND STAFF](#) [COURSES & EVENTS](#) [NEWSROOM](#) [RESOURCE CENTRE](#)


[MY PROFILE](#)




RESOURCE CENTRE

 FILTER Clear




AREA OF INTEREST 


☐

 Funding and Grants 


☐

 Governance 


☐

 ICT Services 


☐

 Leadership 


☐

 Learning from Home 

☐

 Mental Health and Wellbeing 

☐

 Policy and Compliance Resources 

[Home](#) / [Resource Centre](#)

AISNSW Resource Centre

Welcome to the AISNSW Resource Centre.



Please ensure you log in to see all documents available to you.

To begin your search simply type in your keyword/s to the left and click enter OR select one of the Areas of Interest. Once you have started your search you will be able to expand or reduce your search terms using the filter options provided.





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