



Media Release

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Expert Panel on teacher registration critical in improving teacher quality

The Association of Independent Schools of NSW (AISNSW) today welcomed the Australian Government's review of teacher registration requirements, saying it would ultimately benefit all students and teachers in all schools by focusing on the consistency and extent to which the *Australian Professional Standards for Teachers* (Teacher Standards) are applied nationally.

The Expert Panel for the Review, established by the Federal Minister for Education and Training, Simon Birmingham and overseen by the Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership (AITSL), will consider examples of excellent practice from across the entire teaching profession that contribute to efforts to raise the quality of teaching.

Dr Geoff Newcombe AM, AISNSW Chief Executive, said the Review was timely in light of the significant work that had been undertaken by all states and territories in this area since implementation of the Teacher Standards through AITSL in 2011.

"As the most important in-school factor in a child's learning we need to ensure that all teachers have the opportunity to develop their teaching practice and can operate at the highest possible level.

"To do this we must have consistent and rigorous teaching standards in place across the country as this will allow the identification of any improvements that might be needed, as well as provide a clearer picture of what is working well and examples of excellence across the whole profession," said Dr Newcombe.

AISNSW is confident that the Expert Panel, chaired by Chris Wardlaw, Deputy Chair of AITSL, comprises the right combination of knowledge, experience and expertise to ensure the teaching profession, and all Australian students, benefit from the Review.

Dr Newcombe said: "This is an important step in raising the overall standing of the teaching profession within the Australian community, and will help drive teachers' own professional satisfaction and career enhancement whether teaching in schools, early childhood or vocational education and training.

"The independent schools sector in NSW looks forward to making a positive contribution to the Review."

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