

INCLUSION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Communiqué 3 2 September 2021

On 2 September 2021, the Inclusion Advisory Committee (IAC) held its third meeting for the year in Hobart.

The Committee meeting focused on sharing updates on funding models and supports for students with disability across sectors, sharing the Department of Education's family engagement approach, and providing an overview of the *Child and Student Wellbeing Strategy 2018-2021*.

Members of the Committee include:

Organisation	Representative
Independent Chair	Cheryl Larcombe
Catholic Education Tasmania	Cathrine Montgomery
Independent Schools Tasmania	Ruth Croser
Department of Education Secretary / Delegate	Jodee Wilson
Department of Education Inclusion and Diversity	Lynne McDougall
Southern Support School	Simon Ellaby
Tasmanian Principals Association	Sally Milbourne
Tasmanian Association of State Schools Organisations	Jared Dickason
Australian Association of Special Education Tasmanian Chapter	Bernard Knight

Updates on funding models and supports for students with disability

Education sectors provided updates as follows:

Catholic Education Tasmania

- An interim needs-based funding model was implemented in 2018 for students with disability aligned to the NCCD. CET is currently seeking feedback from principals to refine the model and will look to undertake a review in the near future.
- State-wide NCCD moderation processes were undertaken with all schools as part of the NCCD data collection and CET's funding model processes.

Independent Schools Tasmania

- NCCD funding is allocated to each individual school as part of the Independent School's allocation by the Commonwealth as per NCCD processes.
- IST also delivers in school support and professional learning to staff to support students with disability. This can be tailored and delivered to meet the needs of individual schools.

Department of Education

- In 2021, total investment of \$127.3million is provided for targeted support funding, of which \$92.4 million is attributable to support for students with disability.
- An additional 51 FTE Support Teachers have been employed as a result of the Educational Adjustment model.
- Ongoing delivery of professional learning and induction processes for support teachers continues to be a focus.
- Moderation processes have been undertaken again with all schools in 2021. An additional 500 students with disability have been moderated and included in the Educational Adjustment model for funding in 2022.

Family Engagement

Together with Families approach is DoE's commitment to working together to support learners by improving engagement between staff, families and our system. This work is a critical part of fulfilling DoE's Strategic Plan commitment to support all learners to succeed as connected, resilient, creative and curious thinkers across schools, Child and Family Learning Centres (CFLCs), libraries, and Business Units.

Together with Families is not something new, nor a one-size-fits-all template for family engagement. Rather, it supports existing work and aligns with DoE policies and processes. A Families and Us pilot project is being delivered across 10 DoE sites over the next 18 months to explore, plan, implement and evaluate family engagement methods, tailored to specific needs.

Child and Student Wellbeing Strategy 2018-2021

In 2018 the DoE [Child and Student Wellbeing Strategy](#) was launched, which is now in its final year.

The Strategy has been implemented each year through three action plans:

- 2019 – Mental Wellbeing
- 2020-21 – Physical Wellbeing and the Environment
- 2021-22 – Wellbeing and Me

The Child and Student Wellbeing Strategy supports the Tasmanian Child and Youth Wellbeing Framework and adopts the six [ARACY](#) wellbeing domains: Loved and Safe, Material Basics, Healthy, Learning, Participating and Positive sense of culture and identity.

The future iteration of the Child and Student Wellbeing Strategy will be developed in 2021, consulted on with DoE staff and key stakeholders, for implementation across 2022-2028.

Future Meeting

The Committee's next meeting will be held in November 2021.