

INCLUSION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Inclusion Advisory Committee was appointed in 2021. The Committee will operate for three years until the end of 2023.

Role

The role of the Inclusion Advisory Committee is to provide advice to the Minister for Education. Advice will focus on the education of students with disability in Tasmania, across all education sectors. The education sectors include Catholic Education, Independent Schools and Government schools in Tasmania.

This work aligns to the implementation of the [Ministerial Taskforce Report 2015](#) recommendations. The Committee will provide advice on supports for students with disability across the following key areas:

- *Work with schools to become disability ready and responsive*
- *Improve teaching and learning through inclusive education*
- *Work with communities in partnership*
- *Align resources to inclusive education practice.*

This will include sharing information in relation to evidence-based research and best practice. Advice will focus on the education of students with disability and inclusive education practice.

The Committee will also support Tasmania's engagement in key national work, including:

- Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability
- 2020 Review of the Disability Standards for Education (2005)
- Nationally Consistent Collection of Data (NCCD) Quality Assurance
- National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) – Intersection with Education
- Other reforms related to inclusive education practice and supporting students with disability.

Membership

Chair

The Working Group will be independently chaired.

Membership will consist of:

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

Role of Committee Members

The role of members is to help the education sectors in Tasmania to promote inclusive education practice. Committee members are to share the views of the organisation or group they represent, rather than personal views and opinions.

Members may nominate one proxy from their organisation to attend meetings if they are unable to attend. Executive Support will be provided by the Department of Education.

The Committee can invite guests to meetings to share relevant, professional expertise. The Committee can also engage with key experts from outside Tasmania.

Updates on the Committee's work will be shared with the Minister through the Chair.

Public communication on the outcomes and outputs of the Committee's work should be made via the Chair. Approval should also be sought from the Minister for Education for public communications.

Frequency of Meetings

The Committee will meet at least twice a year depending on the requirements of the Committee's workplan.

Legislative Context

The Inclusion Advisory Committee will operate within the context of a range of current legal and policy obligations. These obligations will guide the work undertaken and advice provided by the Committee. The aim of the Committee's work is to ensure quality provision of education for all learners across education sectors in Tasmania.

These state, national and international obligations include:

- [Tasmanian Education Act 2016](#)
- [Disability Discrimination Act 1992](#) (DDA)
- [Disability Standards for Education 2005](#) (DSE)
- [National Disability Insurance Scheme \(NDIS\) Act 2013](#)
- [United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2008](#) (UNCRPD)
- [United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation](#) (UNESCO)

The Committee will continue to support education sectors to meet their obligations as outlined above.