



APPA

Australian Primary
Principals Association

ABOUT APPA

THE AUSTRALIAN PRIMARY PRINCIPALS ASSOCIATION (APPA) IS THE PEAK NATIONAL PROFESSIONAL BODY REPRESENTING 7,600+ PRIMARY SCHOOL PRINCIPALS IN GOVERNMENT, CATHOLIC AND INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS, AND THE 2.268 MILLION PRIMARY STUDENTS ENROLLED IN THEIR SCHOOLS.

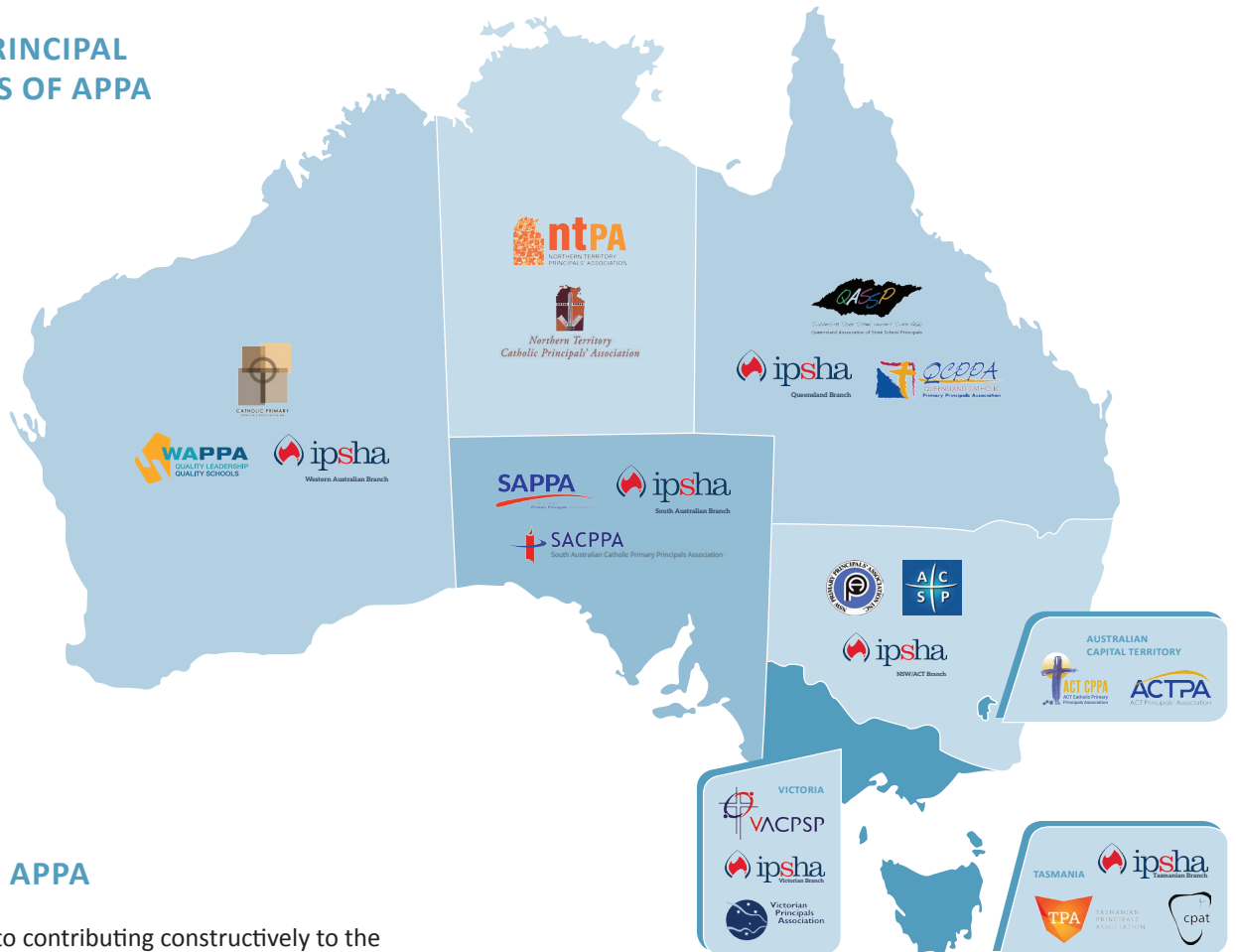
Formed in 1974 and made up of the national and state and territory primary principals' associations across Australia, APPA has strong working relationships with the Minister for Education and the Ministerial Office, federal parliamentarians including the Shadow Minister for Education, the Department of Education, key education stakeholders, educational institutions and education authorities.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

Recognising that there are three education sectors (Government, Catholic and Independent) APPA is structured as follows:

- The National Advisory Council (NAC) 'gathers under one roof' a representative (usually the President) of each of the sector primary principals' associations at a national, state and territory level. This group of twenty-eight members (including the APPA President) meets on four occasions each year and provides advice to the APPA Board in relation to priority areas, policy formation and other matters that impact on the work of primary school principals and school communities.
- The APPA Board governs the business affairs and strategic directions of APPA.

AFFILIATED PRINCIPAL ASSOCIATIONS OF APPA



THE WORK OF APPA

APPA is committed to contributing constructively to the development of good public policy that is responsive to the needs of children and the school community and recognises the right of parents to choose the school that will work best for their child. The Australian Primary Principals Association has 6 key priorities:

- The status of the profession;
- Principal and school leader health and wellbeing;
- Sustained investment in primary education and intervention as early as possible;
- A focus on learning and development of a primary curriculum;
- Coordinated support for children (interagency coordination), provision of allied health and social services;
- Finding the balance between central determination and local decision making.

In addition, APPA believes that the recent pandemic period has reinforced the need for the profession to be meaningfully and closely involved in collaboration on policy formulation, assessment and implementation design. APPA remains deeply concerned about the mental health of primary school aged children.

APPA holds a well-attended national conference each year in recognition of primary leader's commitment to lifelong learning.

APPA has undertaken several major pieces of work, some in collaboration with the Commonwealth Department responsible for school education. These have included:

- School Leader Wellbeing: Supporting school leaders to flourish (2023)
- Review of the National School Reform Agreement (2023)
- Lessons from COVID-19 for Australian Schools (2022)

- Quality Initial Teacher Education Review (2021)
- Childhood Anxiety in Primary Schools (2020)
- National Primary Principals Day (Launched 2019)
- Thrive with Five (2018)
- National Principal Charter (2018)
- National Symposium on Principal Health and Wellbeing (2017)
- Back to Balance: How policy and practice can make primary principals highly effective (2017)

APPA has also developed submissions to, provided an expert perspective to, and/or attended as a witness, various inquiries, including:

- Review of the National School Reform Agreement (2022-2023)
- Respectful Relationships Panel (2021-22)
- Building a culturally responsive Australian teaching workforce (2021-2022)
- Adult Literacy and Its Importance (2021)
- Improving Occupational Mobility (2021)
- Review of Regional Resourcing Standards (Nov 2020)
- Valuing the teaching profession - an independent inquiry - NSW (Nov 2020)
- Disability Standards Review (Sept 2020)
- Review of the loading for students with disability (Sept 2019)
- Review of the Melbourne Declaration (June 2019)
- APPA Teacher Registration Review Submission 2018 (May 2019)
- Optimising STEM Industry-School Partnerships: Inspiring Australia's Next Generation (2018)