
Choice and Affordability Fund

Work Plan 2022–2025

Association of Independent Schools of the ACT Inc

Date agreed – November 2021

Choice and Affordability Fund – Work Plan 2022–2025

Association of Independent Schools of the ACT Inc

Summary of Work Plan 2022–2025

During 2022 – 2025 AISACT will address the five National Priorities (NP) of Choice and Affordability of schools, Transition Assistance, Special Circumstances Funding, Strengthening Outcomes for Schools and Educationally Disadvantaged Schools and Students, and Student Wellbeing and Support.

The activities proposed under the Choice and Affordability Fund are necessary to, and complimentary of, support for ACT Independent schools addressing the national priorities. The work plan has been developed in consultation with the AISACT Executive Committee and communicated to all Member schools. Projects and activities include both distributed funds provided directly to schools and centralised programs designed to best support schools.

Under NP(a), Choice and Affordability of schools, grant funding will be offered to all schools in support of their work in facilitating parental choice of schools in the independent sector in the ACT. Transition Assistance (NP(b)) priority funds will be targeted to those schools that are negatively impacted by the shift to the Direct Measure of Income (DMI), as well as support for schools in general to transition to the new funding model. Distributed funds will be available to schools through specific grant programs under the Strengthening Outcomes for Schools and Educationally Disadvantaged Schools and Students (NP(d)), and Student Wellbeing and Support (NP(e)) priorities. Targeted Professional Learning opportunities will also be offered to support the schools address these priorities. Special Circumstance Funding (NP(c)) will be available through direct grants for all schools who apply and meet the specific criteria to address unforeseen events and short-term emergency assistance.

Following extensive deliberation and consultation, the AISACT Executive Committee has determined the parameters by which the funding will be used and distributed to schools across the National Priorities.

Overarching Risk Management

Risk	How the risk will be managed
Over time, Member schools become less aware of the imperatives of the priorities of the CAF, and their responsibilities to respond to them, therefore disengaging with this important agreement.	The office of AISACT will work directly with individual schools to ensure comprehensive understanding of the requirements of each of the National Priorities, and schools' responses to those NPs. Further, all Member schools of AISACT meet in General meetings four times a year. Choice and Affordability programs and progress will be a standing item.

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Budget for 2022–2025

Activities/Initiatives	Expenditure type	2022	2023	2024	2025
<u>A – Choice and Affordability</u>					
<i>Facilitating Parental Choice</i>	Centralised				
	Distributed	\$131,547	\$135,493	\$139,558	\$143,745
Total for Priority A	Centralised				
	Distributed	\$131,547	\$135,493	\$139,558	\$143,745
<u>B – Transition Assistance</u>					
<i>Negative Growth Assistance</i>	Centralised				
	Distributed	\$70,158	\$72,263	\$74,431	\$76,664
<i>Transition Assistance</i>	Centralised				
	Distributed	\$70,158	\$72,263	\$74,431	\$76,664
Total for Priority B	Centralised				
	Distributed	\$140,316	\$144,526	\$148,862	\$153,328
<u>C – Special Circumstances Funding</u>					
Special Circumstance Fund	Centralised				
	Distributed				
Total for Priority C	Centralised				
	Distributed	\$100,000			
<u>D – Strengthening outcomes for schools and educationally disadvantaged schools and students</u>					
Strengthening School Outcomes Grants	Centralised				
	Distributed	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000
Strengthening School Outcomes Professional Learning	Centralised	\$53,472	\$58,075	\$62,818	\$67,703
	Distributed				
Total for Priority D	Centralised	\$53,472	\$58,075	\$62,818	\$67,703
	Distributed	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000
<u>E – Student wellbeing and support</u>					
Supporting Students Grants	Centralised				
	Distributed	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$75,000
Supporting Students Professional Learning	Centralised	\$56,547	\$60,493	\$64,558	\$68,745
	Distributed				
Total for Priority E	Centralised	\$56,547	\$60,493	\$64,558	\$68,745
	Distributed	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$75,000
	Administrative costs	\$8,770	\$9,033	\$9,304	\$9,583
	Total expenditure	\$565,652	\$582,621	\$600,100	\$618,104
	Deferred funding	\$595,545	\$464,568	\$329,662	\$190,708

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Expenditure Profile for 2022–2029

	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026*	2027*	2028*	2029*
NGRB's total estimated funding allocation as advised by the department	\$438,490	\$451,644	\$465,194	\$479,150	\$493,524	\$508,330	\$523,580	\$539,288
NGRB's estimated Regional Transition Assistance funding allocation as advised by the department	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Accrued deferred funding from 2020 and 2021 to be carried forward to 2022	\$722,256							
Accrued interest earned on funds held in 2020 and 2021 to be carried forward to 2022	\$450							
NGRB's planned expenditure for the relevant year	\$565,652	\$582,621	\$600,100	\$618,104	\$537,941	\$554,080	\$575,585	\$587,824
NGRB's planned regional transition assistance expenditure for the relevant year								
NGRB's planned deferred funding for the relevant year to be spent in a future year								
Accrued deferred funding from the relevant year and previous years to be spent in a future year	\$595,545	\$464,568	\$329,662	\$190,708	\$146,291	\$100,541	\$48,536	

* Funding over 2026 to 2029 is indicative and will be finalised through 2026-2029 work plans to be settled in 2025.

Rationale for deferred funding

Recognising the small pool of annual funding, the decision was made to have minimal spending in 2020-2021 as transitional assistance was not required. This allowed for the accumulation of sufficient funds to support schools through the National Priorities in the out years.

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Activity/Initiative	Facilitating Parental Choice
Priority	A – Choice and Affordability

Description

AISACT proposes for the distribution of funds under this priority to provide for every Member schools to be captured under this priority. This priority provides funding for initiatives that facilitate parental choice and opportunity giving parents the ability to choose an affordable school that suites their child.

The allocation each year to schools will be based on a school’s enrolments and DMI. The allocation amount calculated is based on a formula agreed by all Members.

The assumption is that school will use the funding for initiatives that facilitate measures which improve the affordability to the parent community.

Schools will receive correspondence outlining the predicted funding amount they could expect in the years 2022-2025. School will be required, on acceptance of the funds, to indicated how the allocated funds will contribute to the school’s plans under this priority. Schools will be asked to provide a clear statement which articulates how they will ensure affordability, and how they will promote the school as a choice for parents.

Forward planning is assisted through the early identification of the proposed funding levels.

Eligible schools

All Member schools of AISACT eligible to access CAF support (excluding Communities @ Work Galilee School, a Special Assistance School).

Timeframes

Schools will be informed of their proposed funding allocation for 2022-2025 at the beginning of 2022.

Schools will receive annual payments by the end of March in each year.

Outcomes

Objectives/expected outcomes	Indicators of success
Increased affordability of participating schools through planned use of the funds. Increased awareness of the suitability of a school by potential families.	All participating schools (sixteen schools) annually demonstrate practical measures to promote affordability and parental choice.

Risk Management

Risk	How the risk will be managed
Schools not acquitting the funds for the purpose for which they are intended.	Schools will be required to provide an annual statement of intent for the use of funds. The Choice and Affordability agreement and National Priorities will be a standing item on AISACT General Meetings (all Member schools attend, four times per year)

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Key stakeholders

Stakeholder & Interest/Impact	Engagement Strategy
Eligible Member schools (sixteen individual schools), their principals and business managers.	<p>The office of AISACT will work directly with individual schools to ensure comprehensive understanding of the requirements of this National Priority, and schools' responses.</p> <p>Further, all Member schools of AISACT meet in General meetings four times a year. Choice and Affordability programs and progress will be a standing item.</p> <p>Letters to schools indicating the funding and their responsibilities under this Priority will be provided.</p>

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Activity/Initiative	Negative Growth Assistance
Priority	B – Transition Assistance

Description

Financial and transition support will be provided to the school which would meet the criteria to have access to support through the National Adjustment Assistance Fund (NAAF); that is, schools which will experience reductions in per student funding.

Eligible schools

One AISACT Member school is captured under these criteria. This school will receive direct grants each year.

Timeframes

The school will be informed of their proposed funding allocation for 2022-2025 at the beginning of 2022.

The school will receive annual payments by the end of March in each year.

Outcomes

Objectives/expected outcomes	Indicators of success
Assist eligible school in transitioning to the new funding model.	The school reports on how the funding contributed to their transition plan.

Risk Management

Risk	How the risk will be managed
The school is unable to identify precisely how the direct grant was able to assist in transition to the new funding model.	AISACT will maintain regular contact with the school specific to the outcomes of this Priority.

Key stakeholders

Stakeholder & Interest/Impact	Engagement Strategy
Radford College is the only stakeholder eligible for this Priority.	AISACT will maintain regular contact with the school specific to the outcomes of this Priority.

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Activity/Initiative	Transition Assistance
Priority	B – Transition Assistance

Description

Financial and transition support will be provided to those schools which would meet the criteria determined by the AISACT Executive Committee.

The AISACT Executive Committee determined that schools with an annual indexation rate below two per cent as indicated in the Commonwealth funding model (irrespective of enrolments) would be eligible to receive a direct grant under this Priority.

Eligible schools

Two Member schools are eligible for funding under the criteria determined by the Executive Committee: Burgmann Anglican School and Daramalan College.

Timeframes

The schools will be informed of their proposed funding allocation for 2022-2025 at the beginning of 2022.

The schools will receive annual payments by the end of March in each year.

Outcomes

Objectives/expected outcomes	Indicators of success
Assist eligible schools in transitioning to the new funding model.	The schools report on how the funding contributed to their transition plan.

Risk Management

Risk	How the risk will be managed
The schools are unable to identify precisely how the direct grant was able to assist in transition to the new funding model.	AISACT will maintain regular contact with the schools specific to the outcomes of this Priority.

Key stakeholders

Stakeholder & Interest/Impact	Engagement Strategy
Principals and Business Managers of Burgmann Anglican School and Daramalan College are the stakeholders eligible for this Priority.	AISACT will maintain regular contact with the schools specific to the outcomes of this Priority.

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Activity/Initiative	Special Circumstances Funding
Priority	C – Special Circumstances Funding

Description

The Choice and Affordability Fund is available for schools to apply for assistance if they are impacted by a special circumstance, as outlined in the Guidelines, for short term assistance. The nature of support to a school experiencing special circumstances will vary by the type of circumstance.

As a contingency, \$100,000 will be available each year to provide assistance if required.

Eligible schools

All Member schools eligible to be supported through the Choice and Affordability Fund are able to apply to access this fund.

Timeframes

Schools are informed annually of the availability of this fund. Timeframes are determined by the circumstance, and when it occurs.

Outcomes

Objectives/expected outcomes	Indicators of success
Any school assisted will be able to address the impact of the identified issue.	Schools which access this funding are able to continue operating with little interruption.

Risk Management

Risk	How the risk will be managed
Schools do not apply to access the available fund.	AISACT will maintain regular correspondence with schools to inform them of the fund. Further, AISACT will make direct contact with schools should there be a circumstance in which the school may be eligible to apply.
Allocated funds are never accessed.	AISACT will re-direct funds over time to other Priorities as needed.

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Key stakeholders

Stakeholder & Interest/Impact	Engagement Strategy
Eligible Member schools (seventeen individual schools), their principals and business managers.	<p>The office of AISACT will work directly with individual schools to ensure comprehensive understanding of the requirements of this National Priority, and schools' responses.</p> <p>Further, all Member schools of AISACT meet in General meetings four times a year. Choice and Affordability programs and progress will be a standing item.</p>

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Activity/Initiative	Strengthening School Outcomes - Grants
Priority	D – Strengthening outcomes for schools and educationally disadvantaged schools and students

Description

This grant will support initiatives that strengthen outcomes for schools. Member schools will be able to apply for grants of \$20,000. There will be up to five grants available per year. These direct grants will support programs/projects/initiatives/resources specific to a school which supports the focus of this Priority.

Over the time of this workplan, it is anticipated that all Member schools would benefit from these direct grants.

Eligible schools

All Member schools eligible to be supported through the Choice and Affordability Fund are able to apply to access this fund.

Timeframes

The schools will be invited to apply for a grant at the beginning of each year 2022-2025.

The schools will receive grant payments by the end of March in each year.

Outcomes

Objectives/expected outcomes	Indicators of success
Schools will deliver programs/projects/initiatives/resources bespoke to their needs and articulated in their application which support strengthening outcomes for students.	<p>AISACT provides five grants each year.</p> <p>The schools report on how this grant contributed to meeting the stated outcome.</p> <p>Schools will make presentations on their initiative at the AISACT Annual Celebrating Teaching & Learning event.</p>

Risk Management

Risk	How the risk will be managed
Schools do not apply for the grants.	AISACT will maintain regular contact with the schools promoting the availability of the grants and the specific outcomes of this Priority.
More applications than available grants received each year.	AISACT will meet with individual schools to propose future implementation timelines.

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Key stakeholders

Stakeholder & Interest/Impact	Engagement Strategy
Eligible Member schools (seventeen individual schools), their principals and business managers.	The office of AISACT will work directly with individual schools to ensure comprehensive understanding of the requirements of this National Priority, and schools' responses. Further, all Member schools of AISACT meet in General meetings four times a year. Choice and Affordability programs and progress will be a standing item.

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Activity/Initiative	Strengthening School Outcomes – Professional Learning
Priority	D – Strengthening outcomes for schools and educationally disadvantaged schools and students

Description

AISACT will provide a range of central professional learning programs which will focus on the Australian Curriculum, Quality Teaching & Learning, and Evidence Informed Practice. In addition, specialist support from the office of AISACT will be provided to Member schools on an as needs basis.

This suite of programs will be complementary to the school specific initiatives supported by direct grants.

Eligible schools

Staff from all Member schools will be able to access the suite of programs offered through AISACT.

Timeframes

The AISACT Calendar of Professional Learning will be advertised each year through multiple networks already established with Member schools.

Outcomes

Objectives/expected outcomes	Indicators of success
Teachers will develop deeper understanding of the contemporary skills and practices applicable to each focus area.	<p>Staff from 80% of Member schools participate in the suite of programs.</p> <p>Teachers will make presentations on their learnings and implementation at the AISACT Annual Celebrating Teaching & Learning event.</p>

Risk Management

Risk	How the risk will be managed
Participation numbers low.	<p>AISACT will maintain regular contact through all established networks promoting the availability of the professional learning opportunities and the specific outcomes of this Priority.</p> <p>AISACT will make contact with individual schools and individuals to encourage engagement.</p>

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Key stakeholders

Stakeholder & Interest/Impact	Engagement Strategy
Eligible Member schools, their principals and teachers, and the AISACT Teaching and Learning Subcommittee.	The office of AISACT will work directly with individual schools to ensure comprehensive understanding of the requirements of this National Priority. Promotion through professional networks, the AISACT Professional Learning calendar, and AISACT Newsletter.

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Activity/Initiative	Supporting Students – Grants
Priority	E – Student wellbeing and support

Description

This grant will support initiatives that strengthen outcomes for schools. Member schools will be able to apply for grants of \$15,000. There will be up to five grants available per year. These direct grants will support programs/projects/initiatives/resources specific to a school which supports the focus of this Priority.

Over the time of this workplan, it is anticipated that all Member schools would benefit from these direct grants.

Eligible schools

All Member schools eligible to be supported through the Choice and Affordability Fund are able to apply to access this fund.

Timeframes

The schools will be invited to apply for a grant at the beginning of each year 2022-2025.

The schools will receive grant payments by the end of March in each year.

Outcomes

Objectives/expected outcomes	Indicators of success
Schools will deliver programs/projects/initiatives/resources bespoke to their needs and articulated in their application which support student wellbeing and ensure safe, supportive and respectful learning environments.	<p>AISACT provides five grants each year.</p> <p>The schools report on how this grant contributed to meeting the stated outcome.</p> <p>Schools will make presentations on their initiative at the AISACT Annual Celebrating Teaching & Learning event.</p>

Risk Management

Risk	How the risk will be managed
Schools do not apply for the grants.	AISACT will maintain regular contact with the schools promoting the availability of the grants and the specific outcomes of this Priority.
More applications than available grants received each year.	AISACT will meet with individual schools to propose future implementation timelines.

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Key stakeholders

Stakeholder & Interest/Impact	Engagement Strategy
Eligible Member schools (seventeen individual schools), their principals and business managers.	The office of AISACT will work directly with individual schools to ensure comprehensive understanding of the requirements of this National Priority, and schools' responses. Further, all Member schools of AISACT meet in General meetings four times a year. Choice and Affordability programs and progress will be a standing item.

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Activity/Initiative	Supporting Students – Professional Learning
Priority	E – Student wellbeing and support

Description

AISACT will provide a range of central professional learning programs which will focus on proactive efforts to support wellbeing and mental health. In addition, specialist support from the office of AISACT will be provided to Member schools on an as needs basis.

This suite of programs will introduce proactive strategies for schools to promote safe, supportive and respectful learning environments. Mental health and student wellbeing will be ongoing focus areas.

Eligible schools

Staff from all Member schools will be able to access the suite of programs offered through AISACT.

Timeframes

The AISACT Calendar of Professional Learning will be advertised each year through multiple networks already established with Member schools.

Outcomes

Objectives/expected outcomes	Indicators of success
Teachers will develop deeper understanding of the contemporary skills and practices applicable to each focus area.	<p>Staff from 80% of Member schools participate in the suite of programs.</p> <p>Teachers will make presentations on their learnings and implementation at the AISACT Annual Celebrating Teaching & Learning event.</p>

Risk Management

Risk	How the risk will be managed
Participation numbers low.	<p>AISACT will maintain regular contact through all established networks promoting the availability of the professional learning opportunities and the specific outcomes of this Priority.</p> <p>AISACT will make contact with individual schools and individuals to encourage engagement.</p>

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Key stakeholders

Stakeholder & Interest/Impact	Engagement Strategy
Eligible Member schools, their principals and teachers, and the AISACT Teaching and Learning Subcommittee and the Education Support Subcommittee.	The office of AISACT will work directly with individual schools to ensure comprehensive understanding of the requirements of this National Priority. Promotion through professional networks, the AISACT Professional Learning calendar, and AISACT Newsletter.

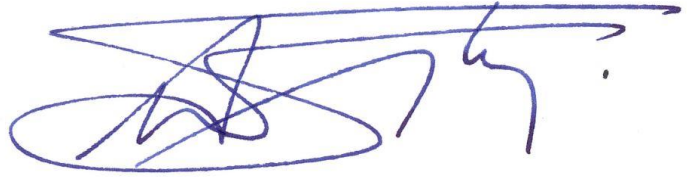
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2022-25 CAF Workplan NGRB Sign

This 2022-25 CAF Workplan is submitted in fulfillment of the workplan requirement in part 4 of the CAF Agreement and I understand that, once approved, the work plan forms Attachment A to the CAF Agreement.

Name and Position of the person signing off on behalf of the NGRB: Andrew Wrigley
Executive Director, AISACT



Date: 4 November 2021

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Schedule 1 – Indicative school-level distributions 2022–2025

Priority A – Choice and Affordability

AGEID	School Name	2022	2023	2024	2025
17215	Blue Gum Community School	\$1,745	\$1,797	\$1,851	\$1,907
2910	Brindabella Christian College	\$9,390	\$9,672	\$9,662	\$10,261
16044	Burgmann Anglican School	\$15,364	\$15,825	\$16,299	\$16,788
2062	Canberra Christian School	\$2,272	\$2,341	\$2,411	\$2,483
2031	Canberra Girls Grammar School	\$10,205	\$10,511	\$10,827	\$11,152
2060	Canberra Grammar School	\$19,223	\$19,800	\$20,394	\$21,006
13363	Canberra Montessori School	\$892	\$918	\$946	\$974
13364	Covenant Christian School	\$2,227	\$2,294	\$2,363	\$2,434
2064	Daramalan College	\$15,186	\$15,642	\$16,111	\$16,595
15951	Emmaus Christian School	\$4,966	\$5,115	\$5,268	\$5,426
22837	Islamic School of Canberra	\$3,468	\$3,572	\$3,679	\$3,790
2912	Orana Steiner School	\$5,845	\$6,021	\$6,201	\$6,387
2914	Radford College	\$18,979	\$19,549	\$20,135	\$20,739
2068	St Edmund's College	\$7,609	\$7,837	\$8,072	\$8,314
30239	Taqwa School	\$1,618	\$1,667	\$1,717	\$1,768
2911	Trinity Christian School	\$12,557	\$12,933	\$13,321	\$13,721

Priority B – Transition Assistance

AGEID	School Name	2022	2023	2024	2025
2914	Radford College	\$70,158	\$72,263	\$74,431	\$76,664
16044	Burgmann Anglican School	\$35,283	\$36,341	\$37,432	\$38,555
2064	Daramalan College	\$34,875	\$35,922	\$36,999	\$38,109

Priority C – Special Circumstances Funding

AGEID	School Name	2022	2023	2024	2025
	Available as needed (carried forward and topped up as needed)	\$100,000			

Priority D – Strengthening outcomes for schools and educationally disadvantaged schools and students

AGEID	School Name	2022	2023	2024	2025
	Total to five schools (yet to be determined)	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000

Priority E – Student wellbeing and support

AGEID	School Name	2022	2023	2024	2025
	Total to five schools (yet to be determined)	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$75,000