



Educational Accountability - Australian Government

In November 2016 the Commonwealth made a further amendment to the Australian Education Regulation 2013. The Government **no longer requires** the publishing of school improvement plans which were planned to commence in January 2017.

See below updated links to the latest versions of the Australian Education Act 2013, the Regulation and the Guide.

The *Australian Education Act 2013* (last modified 18 April 2016):

[Australian Education Act 2013](#)

The *Australian Education Regulation 2013* (last modified 10 November 2016):

[Australian Education Regulation 2013](#)

The *Guide to the Australian Education Act 2013*

[Guide to the Education Act | Guide to the Australian Education Act 2013, Australian Government](#)

Ongoing Policy Requirements

[A.3.1.2. Ongoing policy requirements | Guide to the Australian Education Act 2013, Australian Government](#)

Financial reporting requirements (Financial Accountability and Questionnaire):

[Site | Guide to the Australian Education Act 2013](#)

MySchool reporting requirements (to ACARA)

[F.8. School information collection requirements | Guide to the Australian Education Act 2013, Australian Government](#)

Funding Agreement between the Australian Government and Catholic Education Commission NSW

[CECNSW Funding Agreement AEA \(insert link to pdf\)](#)

The funding arrangements, set out in the above Agreement letter and attachment, continue to apply to Commonwealth recurrent funding in 2017.

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Key Educational Accountability Requirements under the Australian Education Act 2013 and the Australian Education Regulation 2013

| Act/Regulation | Requirement | Required Actions | Status |
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| Section 77(2)(a) / 41(a) | Enhancing principal and teacher performance and professional development | Implement the <i>Australian Teacher Performance and Development Framework</i> (refer to www.aitsl.edu.au). Implementation of certain NSW Great Teaching, Inspired Learning reforms is aligned to this requirement. | Since 2014 |
| Section 77(2)(a) / 41(b) | Providing access to ongoing professional development | Provide access to ongoing professional development consistent with the <i>Australian Charter for the Professional Learning of Teachers and School Leaders</i> (refer to www.aitsl.edu.au). Implementation of certain NSW Great Teaching, Inspired Learning reforms is aligned to this requirement. | Since 2014 |
| Section 77(2)(b) / 42 | Implementing the Australian Curriculum in accordance with the Regulation, or a curriculum with comparable outcomes recognised by ACARA | NSW Catholic school authorities implement the NSW syllabuses developed by the BOSTES (www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/) including the NSW syllabuses for the Australian Curriculum as they are approved by the NSW Minister. | Since 2014 |
| Section 77(2)(c) / 43 | Ensuring schools participate in the National Assessment Program and provide data collected from those assessments (www.nap.edu.au) | Ensure schools participate in the national assessments such as annual literacy and numeracy testing (NAPLAN) and in any sample national or international assessments for which a school is selected. | Continuing requirement from <i>Schools Assistance Act 2008</i> |
| Section 77(2)(d)(i) stet Regulation 44-45 are omitted from November 2016 | Ensuring that the authority has a school improvement framework for the schools in its authority | Whilst reporting to the Commonwealth on School Improvement Plans and associated Frameworks is no longer required, diocesan authorities are still advised to develop and utilise schools improvement frameworks to assist school improvement planning : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Develop a school plan in consultation with persons responsible for students at the school and others in the school community ○ Review the school's progress against the plan each year and update as necessary ○ Prepare a report describing the school's achievements in relation to, and progress against, the plan in the previous year. | Reg 44 omitted from November 2016, reporting on Framework not required. |

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| <p>Section 77(2)(d)(ii) stet Regulation 44-45 are omitted from November 2016</p> | <p>Ensuring that each of its schools develops, implements, publishes and reviews a school improvement plan</p> | <p>The repeal of Section 44-45 of the AE Regulation in November 2016, means schools and school systems are no longer required to establish, publish, review and report upon School Improvement Plans as part of the annual Commonwealth accountability cycle. This has been done to reduce the regulatory burden on schools and approved authorities.</p> <p>This does not mean that schools and school systems should not continue with the development of School Improvement Frameworks and School Improvement Plans which are considered 'best practice'. Schools and school systems should continue to enhance their current practice on School Improvement Frameworks and Plans but there is no requirement to publish on a publicly available website or report to the Commonwealth.</p> <p>School Improvement Plans can include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Contextual information about the school ○ Description of a process for conducting self-assessment ○ Information about the school's performance based on the self-assessment using the National School Improvement Tool (http://www.acer.edu.au/files/NSIT.pdf) or equivalent ○ Description of process for reviewing the school improvement plan ○ Focus on strategic planning, including on areas of the school that may be improved. ○ Description of how the 5 national reform directions apply to the school: quality teaching, quality learning, empowered school leadership, transparency and accountability, and meeting student need. | <p>Reg 45 omitted from November 2016, reporting on School Plans not required.</p> |
| <p>Section 77(2)(e)</p> | <p>Ensuring that the authority and each of its schools complies with the relevant disability discrimination laws of the Commonwealth and State</p> | <p>All education providers are required to comply with the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 and the Disability Standards for Education 2005 (https://education.gov.au/disability-standards-education)</p> | <p>Continuing requirement from <i>Schools Assistance Act 2008</i></p> |

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| <p>Section 77(2)(f)/46 – 60</p> <p>Regulation 46-50 Regulation 52-57</p> <p>Regulation 59</p> <p>Regulation 55(e)</p> <p>Regulation 60</p> | <p>Providing information required by the Regulation related to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A school's census ○ A national program to collect data on schools and school education ○ Student reports to parents or carers ○ a statement whether students, parents and teachers were satisfied with the school during the reporting period, including (if applicable) data collected using the National School Opinion Survey ○ School information provided to the public, annually | <p>School's census: The Australian Government is responsible for the collection of schools census data for provision to the ABS on the first Friday in August.</p> <p>National data collection: Data is collected from schools and authorities for reporting on MySchool, the National Report on Schooling, Report on Government Services. Most is available through existing data collections.</p> <p>Student reports: see Regulation 59; in summary, for each student in Years 1 to 10, against available national standards, relative to the performance of the student's peer group, reported on five-point scale (example A to E).</p> <p>ACARA has developed national items that form the National School Opinion Survey. Schools can use these national items in the school survey tool to meet their existing school satisfaction reporting requirements.</p> <p>Summary school information on income, enrolments, attendance, results and teacher qualifications to be published on the internet in a school's annual report before the end of June the following year. This is in addition to information provided to ACARA for reporting on MySchool.</p> | <p>Continuing requirement from <i>Schools Assistance Act 2008</i></p> |
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