



**JACSA**

JESUIT AND COMPANION SCHOOLS AUSTRALIA

# Jesuit and Companion Schools Australia

## Terms of Reference

**These Terms of reference were approved by Jesuit Education Australia on March 8, 2018**

### 1. Preamble

The first goal of the Australian Province of the Society of Jesus is to “build partnership for mission”. “It is an essential dimension of the contemporary Jesuit way of proceeding, rooted in the realisation that to prepare our complex and divided world for the coming of the Kingdom requires a plurality of gifts, perspectives, and experiences”<sup>1</sup>. Jesuit and Companion schools work collaboratively to live and witness to the gospel of Jesus Christ, in the Catholic tradition, through a shared affection for, and careful formation in, the Ignatian spiritual charism and Jesuit educational legacy that spans over 470 years.

The educational network of Jesuit and Companion schools provides a forum to share expertise, resources and professional development programmes, and to engage with formation programs and other experiences that are based on a common and integrated spiritual foundation grounded in Ignatian spirituality and pedagogy.

This network is auspiced by Jesuit Education Australia.

### 2. Mission

The Jesuit and Companion Schools Australia (JACSA) network promotes the educational ministry of the Society of Jesus which is a service to the Catholic Church, by working collaboratively to form young men and women to become people of conscience, competence, compassion and committed to transforming the world for the greater glory of God.

### 3. Aims

- to develop strong working relationships amongst member schools and Jesuit Education Australia and the international Jesuit education network – both JCAP and ICJEA.
- to enable the development of, and appreciation for, the spirituality of Saint Ignatius and Ignatian pedagogy.
- to implement protocols for the induction and formation of teachers and support staff into the founding charism.
- to create various opportunities for and actively participate in inter-school links with staff and students.
- to advance Province priorities and initiatives

### 4. Organisational Structure

- JACSA is auspiced by JEA. The Executive Officer of JEA will be actively involved in JACSA and will work closely with the Chair of JACSA in establishing agendas and other various experiences.

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<sup>1</sup> GC 34, §550

- There will be three meetings per year hosted by the Principals and Rectors of member schools on an annually rotational basis. A quorum for these meetings will be 75% membership. The format of these meetings comprise:
  - Formation in Ignatian Spirituality and Pedagogy
  - Sharing information about the current life of each College
  - Reports and oversight of Relevant Professional Learning and Innovation
  - Reviewing and attending to Province Goals and Directions
  - Best Practice in Education
  - Co-ordinating relevant PD Programs for school staff
  
- JACSA will coordinate at least one focus event a year that brings together student representative from Jesuit/Companion Schools for a three-day conference for the primary purpose of developing with the student leaders what it means to be a leader in an Ignatian school. The theme for this conference may also include other issues such as:
  - Student Leadership
  - Faith Life
  - Environmental Sustainability
  - Social Justice
  - Community Outreach
  - Indigenous and Multicultural Awareness
  - Music, Drama, Debating, Sport Expo
  
- JACSA will bring together key ministries and staff from within schools such as those responsible for leading curriculum, Ignatian formation, Religious Ethos, Student Wellbeing and co-curricular programmes to plan and share resources and encourage an exchange of ideas.
  
- JACSA will oversee the Jesuit Australian Education Conference to be held once every three years.

### **ELIGIBILITY FOR MEMBERSHIP**

Jesuit owned schools and Jesuit Companion schools who have been accepted by Jesuit Education Australia as a Companion school after undergoing the application process, are eligible for membership.

All member schools undergo an Ignatian Ethos and Identity review once every 4 – 6 years conducted by Jesuit Education Australia with the assistance of Principals, Rectors and other Jesuit Educational experts.

### **OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERSHIP**

Principals/Rectors who are members of JACSA have:

- The responsibility to personally engage with Ignatian spirituality and receive ongoing, graduated formation in this area.
- The responsibility of actively pursuing the aims of JACSA by the explicit development of the Ignatian charism with the school.
- The obligation to develop and maintain their school's identity as an Ignatian school and to promote the Ignatian way in various ecclesial and secular forums in which the school is involved.

- The obligation to participate actively in the life of JACSA by attendance at meetings, conferences and support interschool professional development programs and any other activities offered by JACSA.
- The obligation to take their turn to coordinate an annual event that brings together student representatives from Jesuit/Companion Schools for a three-day conference for the primary purpose of developing with the student leaders what it means to be a leader in an Ignatian school.
- The obligation to collaboratively coordinate events that bring together key ministries and staff from within schools such as those responsible for leading curriculum, Ignatian formation, Religious Ethos and co-curricular programmes to plan and share resources and an exchange of ideas.

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## CURRENT MEMBERSHIP

<b>Xavier College</b> , Melbourne Vic (est. 1878) Principal: Mr William Doherty Rector: Fr Chris Middleton SJ	Co-ed P-4 Boys 5-8 Boys 9-12	Jesuit independent school
<b>St Aloysius' College</b> , Sydney NSW (est. 1879) Principal: Mr Mark Tannock Rector: Fr Ross Jones SJ	Boys 3-6 Boys 7-12	Jesuit Independent School
<b>Saint Ignatius' College</b> , Riverview NSW (est. 1880) Principal: Dr Paul Hine Rector: Fr Jack McLain SJ	Boys 5-6 Boys 7-12	Jesuit Independent School
<b>Saint Ignatius' College</b> , Adelaide SA (est. 1951) Principal: Mr Peter Coffey Rector: Fr Peter Hosking SJ	Co-ed R-6 Co-ed 7-12 [Ignatius Early Years 3-4 y.o.]	Jesuit Independent School
<b>John XXIII College</b> , Perth WA (est. 1977) Principal: Mr Robert Henderson	Co-ed K-6 Co-ed 7-12	Catholic Independent School in the Ignatian Tradition
<b>Loyola College</b> , Watsonia Vic. (est. 1980) Principal: Mr Joseph Favrin	Co-ed 7-12	Jesuit Companion School with Melbourne Catholic Education
<b>Loyola Senior High School</b> , Mt Druitt NSW (est. 1993) Principal: Ms Cathy Larkin	Co-ed 11-12 Co-ed Trade Training Centre	Jesuit Companion School with Parramatta Catholic Education
<b>Saint Ignatius' College</b> , Geelong Vic. (est. 1991; partnered with Jesuits 2007) Principal: Mr Michael Exton	Co-ed 7-12	Jesuit Companion School with Melbourne Catholic Education
<b>Xavier Catholic College</b> , Hervey Bay Qld (est. 2002; partnered with Jesuits 2009) Principal: Mr Simon Dash	Co-ed P-6 Co-ed 7-12	Jesuit Companion School with Brisbane Catholic Education
<b>Xavier Catholic College</b> , Ballina NSW (est. 2000; partnered with the Jesuits in 2016) Principal: Mr Michael Vella	Co-ed 7-12	Jesuit Companion School with Lismore Catholic Education

## ADDENDUM

The following information is to be read in conjunction with the JACSA Terms of Reference.

### PROPOSED MEETING FRAMEWORK

1. JACSA will convene three times a year.
2. Each meeting will incorporate an educational focus. The host school takes responsibility for preparations.
3. A regular session of 'Show and Tell' to complement school reports: each school has the opportunity to share resources, ideas and strategies on one area within their report (optional).
4. Each meeting includes a significant formation/prayer component (e.g. an Examen with journaling/*lectio divina*/one of the *First Spiritual Exercises* chapters from Michael Hansen's text)
5. Each meeting includes a Question and Answer session: early in the gathering, schools nominate questions/concerns/challenges on which the group members can reflect on over the two days, then, towards the end of the gathering, share the wisdom of the group in response.
6. Administrative issues/business of the meeting (eg calendars, events).
7. Where appropriate there will be opportunities for the Jesuit and Companions Schools to meet separately for a session.

#### ***A possible structure for Sunday:***

3:00pm	Arrive and Afternoon Tea
3:30pm	Prayer
3:45pm	Questions/Concerns/Challenges
4.00pm	Formation
5:30pm	Mass
6:15pm	Drinks and dinner

#### ***A possible structure for Monday:***

8:30am	Prayer/Formation (Item 5 above)
9:30am	Focus on a nominated area: input of some kind, reflection, discussion, actions (where relevant) (Item 3 above)
10:30am	Morning tea with staff (at a time to suit the school)
11:00am	Conclude Focus on a nominated area (Item 3 above)
12:00pm	School Reports and 'Show and Tell' (Item 4 above)
12:30pm	Lunch
1:15pm	Discussion about questions/concerns/challenges: share the wisdom of the group (Item 6 above)
2:15pm	Remaining business/review of JACSA
3:00pm	Meeting closure

### BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

Principals/Rectors who are members of JACSA may:

- Describe their respective schools as Jesuit or Jesuit Companion schools.
- Use the JACSA title in advertising etc.
- Access a range of services from the Australian Jesuit Province and other Jesuit international opportunities that may be made available.
- Attend and participate in any conferences, meetings, professional development or other activities organised by JACSA. They may extend this to their nominee(s) where appropriate.