

# 2026 Membership Benefits



**Independent Schools Queensland is the peak body representing Queensland's independent schooling sector.**

**We exist for our members.**



Since it was first formed in 1968, Independent Schools Queensland (ISQ) has remained committed to supporting choice and diversity in education while representing the interests of independent schools across Queensland.

ISQ is continually reviewing and expanding support services and resources for member schools to ensure you remain up-to-date with significant policy changes and have the necessary support to enhance your school services.

Membership of ISQ entitles your school to many benefits from a wide range of services created specifically to meet your needs.

## Emerging Issues

ISQ works closely with the sector's national peak body, Independent Schools Australia (ISA) on federal advocacy issues.

ISA's ongoing national campaign, *School Choice Counts*, sets out with the goal of protecting independent school students' government funding, defending family choice in education, and ensuring fair treatment for every family who chooses an independent school.

At the state level, ISQ continues to endeavour to create an environment where independent schools can thrive and continue to provide quality education for a growing number of Queensland students. Key areas of discussion with the Queensland Government and Department of Education in 2026 will include:

- Capital funding for non-state schools and addressing the challenges of building new schools
- Ongoing implementation of regulatory reforms relating to the Non-State School Accreditation Framework
- Teacher recruitment and retention issues
- Student and staff wellbeing.

## Leading Advocacy and Influence

ISQ provides a united and powerful voice for independent schools in policy and funding debates. ISQ represents and promotes the unique and diverse needs of independent schools, and champions for them in times of reform. ISQ regularly:

- meets with the Education Minister and State and Commonwealth department officers to discuss current issues of concern to independent schools
- lodges submissions on government policy or funding proposals which may impact independent schools
- hosts functions for member schools to network with key political representatives and business and community leaders
- represents the interests of the independent sector on a large range of boards, committees and advisory groups
- provides a strong representative voice for independent schools in the media.

Your membership also supports the work of ISA – an advocacy body which represents the needs and interests of independent schools at a national level.

## ISQ Key Programs

ISQ offers a range of options to support schools to meet challenges while striving to continuously deliver excellent student outcomes through the following:

**GOVERNANCE SERVICES**  
has been developed specifically for independent schools. Specialist training can be adapted to suit the specific requirements of your board.

**OUR SCHOOLS – OUR FUTURE**  
promotes informed public policy debate on current and emerging issues affecting schooling and explores trends and issues in key areas.

**SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT & REVIEW SERVICES** supports schools to assess their effectiveness, develop robust strategic plans, and enable continuous improvement; empowering schools to undertake self-directed change.

**EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT** with a series of bespoke masterclasses and roundtable discussions to enhance strategic thinking capabilities of school leaders while providing important networking opportunities.

**WORKFORCE INNOVATION UNIT**  
supports school leaders to address teacher workforce, attraction, recruitment and retention issues..

## Specialist Professional Learning

ISQ is the trusted learning provider for the independent sector with more than 50 years' experience at the forefront of education innovation, offering specialist professional learning programs that are evidence-based and underpinned by best practice principles.

ISQ Connect&Learn is a tailored online professional learning hub enabling member schools to register for face-to-face events, live webinars and online learning offerings.

ISQ is driven to deliver quality informative experiences with industry professionals, offering an extensive calendar of professional learning opportunities to member schools.

Visit [www.isq.qld.edu.au/schools/teachers/professional-learning-events](http://www.isq.qld.edu.au/schools/teachers/professional-learning-events)

ISQ is a not-for-profit membership organisation governed by a Board of Directors. Directors are appointed for three-year terms with one-third of Directors retiring each year.

The Board of Directors appoints a number of committees:

- Education Committee
- Finance Committee
- Remuneration and Nominations Committee.

The Board also establishes sub-committees to consider specific issues from time to time.

## Specialist Support

ISQ is a respected source of guidance on the leadership and operation of independent schools. Specialist training, resources and programs are available in a range of areas:

- all aspects of school business management and compliance, including NSSAB compliance
- student support services
- support for kindergarten services
- development for all school staff across the career trajectory including programs and events for beginning teachers, middle leaders, aspiring principals, new principals, and experienced executive leaders
- school reviews across a number of focus areas
- school strategic planning support including the facilitation of stakeholder focus groups and the initial drafting process of school strategic plans
- educational research and evidence-based teaching practices
- school funding.

# Keeping Members Informed

ISQ will keep you in touch with the latest education news and ISQ events on a regular basis. Update your email preferences via the QR code below:

**WEEKLY NEWS** (weekly email) latest memos and other useful information

**BRIEFINGS** (quarterly publication) a research feature from an ISQ specialist

**PROFESSIONAL LEARNING & EVENTS** (regular email) a summary of what's on in professional learning for the month ahead

**FOCUS AREA UPDATES** (regular email) information for specialist groups in their areas of interest

**SOCIAL MEDIA** instant updates through LinkedIn and Facebook

**ISQ'S MEMBER HUB** delivers comprehensive information about our activities and services. The secure member-only content area requires a login and is available to all staff at ISQ member schools.

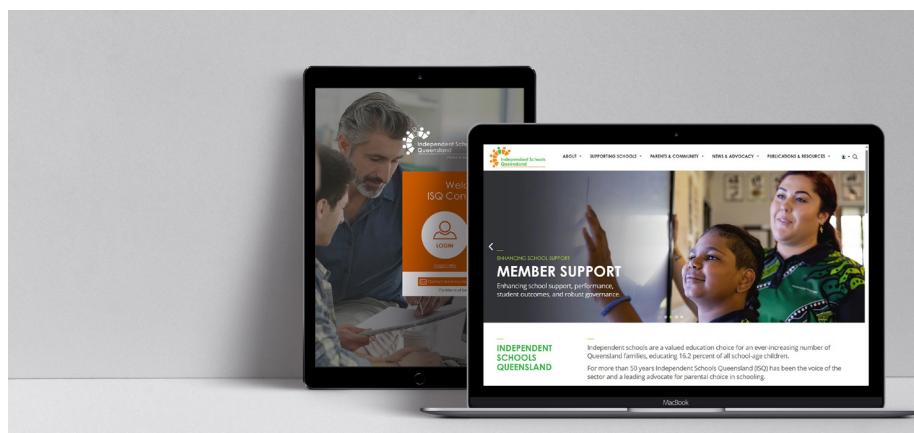
**ISQ'S WEBSITE** delivers comprehensive information about our activities and services.



# Executive Staff

The operations of ISQ are managed by an executive team comprising:

- **Christopher Mountford**  
Chief Executive Officer
- **Stuart McDowall**  
Chief Operating Officer
- **Yvonne Ries**  
Education & School Services Director
- **Callum Bentley**  
Corporate Affairs Deputy Director
- **Peter Ruffini**  
Employee Relations Deputy Director
- **Anjulee Singh**  
Education Services Deputy Director
- **Jane Simmonds**  
School Services Deputy Director
- **Thomas Booth**  
Head of Advisory & Strategic Projects.



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