



2026 Member Schools

Information Booklet



Acknowledgement of Country

The staff of AISNT recognise the Traditional Custodians of the land, seas and skies of Larrakia Country and feel privileged to be immersed in its strength and stories.

We pay our respects to the Elders and Traditional Custodians throughout the Northern Territory, where our many schools are located, and honour the enduring connection Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples have with Country and Culture.

We hold a deep sense of shared responsibility to promote understanding and healing to build a more reconciled Australia through education.



This flag belongs to the Larrakia people, the Traditional Custodians of the Darwin region. We honour its significance and the stories it carries.



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Purpose & Values

Our Purpose

Provide expert leadership as the recognised and trusted voice for Independent Schools in the Northern Territory.

Through high-quality support and strategic advocacy, strengthen their capacity, amplify their impact, and champion their role in shaping educational excellence.

Our Values

EQUITY – uphold every child's right to quality education, regardless of location, culture or circumstance.

INTEGRITY – lead with honesty, courage, and accountability earning trust as both partner and advocate.

COLLABORATION – foster collective strength through, shared voice, united action, and ensuring partnerships across schools, governments and communities. Build collective strength through partnerships across Independent, Catholic and Government sectors to meet the schooling needs of all NT communities.

RESPECT – honor culture, community and Country, embedding Indigenous perspectives in all that we do.

INNOVATION – embrace change, spark creativity, and equip schools to thrive in a future shaped by technology, climate and evolving needs.

Our Intent

LEAD

Provide vision, direction and capacity to strengthen Independent Schools across the Northern Territory.

ADVOCATE

Champion the interests of Independent Schools in the Northern Territory through strong, evidence-based advocacy and representation.

PROMOTE

Enhance capacity, partnerships, and collective identity to ensure strong, sustainable schools and sector growth.

Our Team



Cheryl Salter

Executive Director

Rachel Boyce

Deputy Director

Ian Smith

Director of Independent
Indigenous Schools

Ailsa MacFie

Manager of Northern Territory
Remote Aboriginal Investment
Programs

Michele Oliphant

AISSA/NT Consent and Respectful
Relationships Education Consultant

Chris Tudor

Principal Liason & AISNT Historian

Liam Salter

Social Media Officer

General Office

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Networks

Middle Leaders Network

AISNT Middle Leaders Network connects and develops leadership skills and knowledge to support and empower middle leadership to navigate the complex space.

Designed for: Middle Leaders & Aspiring Leaders

Contact: Rachel Boyce

Inclusion Coordinator Network

Inclusion Support Coordinators and Special Education teachers are encouraged to attend a network meeting each term to share ideas, explore possible solutions to challenges faced and keep abreast of NCCD information and other current legislative requirements.

Designed for: Coordinators and Special Education teachers

Contact: Rachel Boyce

School Leaders Network

AISNT School Leaders Network connects school leaders, utilising best practice, equipping leaders to confidently navigate the leadership space.

Designed for: Leadership Teams

Contact: Rachel Boyce



AISNT Leadership Forum/s 2026

Overview: This bi-annual event is an opportunity for school leaders to come together to share insights, strengthen networks, and explore innovative approaches to education. Focused on the unique challenges and opportunities of the NT context, the forum fosters collaboration and strategic thinking to drive excellence across independent schools. Through keynote sessions and peer-led discussions, principals gain practical tools and inspiration to enhance leadership impact in their communities.

Designed For: Principals & School Leaders

Location: Darwin

When: 20-22 May 2026

Contact: Cheryl Salter or General Office

Location: Alice Springs

When: 21-23 October 2026

Independent Indigenous Schools Workshop

Overview: Facilitated by Director of Independent Indigenous Schools, these biannual workshops allow leaders of Independent Indigenous Schools to explore and share relevant strategic approaches, learn of culturally responsive leadership approaches, navigate challenges and improve outcomes for Indigenous students.

Designed For: CEO's, Principals and School Leaders of our Indigenous Schools

Location: Darwin

When: 22 May 2026

Contact: Ian Smith

Location: Alice Springs

When: 23 October 2026



Blue Knot Trauma Responsive Training for Leaders

Overview:

Day 1 | 28 April 2026 | Leader as Self - Remote Learning Environment

This training focuses on the foundational work of a Leader in understanding themselves and developing a secure base for their team to work from. Strategies reflect on self and one's own Leadership style before applying this in practice. It covers the underpinning elements of the application of trauma-informed principles and created and understanding secure base, along with and attachment dynamics.

Day 2 | 22 May 2026 | Organisational Practice - Face to Face learning Environment

This training program builds on “Self as Leader” and the Trauma Responsive Leadership Framework. This program takes a wider lens to start to explore what it means to have a trauma-informed culture, the elements we need to consider when providing trauma-sensitive environments for our clients and staff, and what wellbeing means in the context of providing support to others.

Designed For: School Leaders, Heads of Boarding, Heads of Well-Being

Location: Darwin

When: 28 April & 22 May 2026

Contact: Ian Smith

Registration Closes 1 March 2026



Leadership Collective

Overview: This program supports participants to make meaningful change within a collaborative, collective learning environment. Participants will lead an improvement initiative within their school and build leadership capacity and develop skills and confidence as leaders. An optional component for participants is the opportunity to complete 4 units of competency of the Diploma of Leadership and Management.

Designed For: Aspiring Leaders and Middle Leaders

AITSL Standards: 1,5,6

Location: Darwin

Term 1: 17-18 February 2026

Term 2: 21-22 April 2026

Term 3: 11-12 August 2026

Term 4: 27 October 2026

Location: Alice Springs

Term 1: 3-4 March 2026

Term 2: 6-7 May 2026

Term 3: 5-6 August 2026

Term 4: 20 October 2026

Contact: Rachel Boyce

Registration Closes 29 January 2026



Wellbeing Masterclass Series: Whole school implementation and impact

Join school leaders and educators to unlock practical strategies that embed whole-school wellbeing, focusing on sustainable change, measurable outcomes, and creating lasting impact across school culture, policy, and daily practice for children and young people, staff, and the wider school community.

Overview: This professional learning masterclass series is designed for school leaders, educators, wellbeing leaders and teams committed to creating lasting, whole-school change. Across a series of four interactive sessions, participants will engage with the Be You Framework and evidence-informed strategies to embed wellbeing into every layer of school life – from culture and leadership to policies and classroom practice. Each session will focus on a key aspect of whole school wellbeing (TBA), led by experts from headspace National and facilitated by the Be You team.

Focusing on sustainable implementation and measurable impact, the series will support schools to build inclusive environments where children, young people and staff can thrive.

By registering for this series, you are committing to attend the following sessions:

Session 1 - Self Harm & Attempts in School Settings: **2 March 2026**

Session 2 - Self & Co-regulation: **25 May 2026**

Session 3 - Psychological Safety & Educator Wellbeing: **24 August 2026**

Session 4 - Critical Incident Support Including Postvention & Responses in Primary Schools: **16 November 2026**

This series offers a balance of expert practitioners, research, application, and collaboration—equipping schools to take meaningful, strategic action on wellbeing.

Designed For: School Leaders, Wellbeing Teams, Teachers & Support Staff

AITSL Standards: 1.1, 1.2, 3.7, 4.1, 4.4, 6.1, 6.2, 7.3, and 7.4.

Location: Online or attend in person at Be You Darwin Office, Tenancy 108/12 Salonika Street, Ground Floor, “The Avenue” Parap. For participants joining online, a Zoom link will be sent prior to each session.

Contact: Michele Oliphant

Registration Closes 23 February 2026

Consent & Respectful Relationship Education

This program supports schools to implement a whole-school approach to Consent & Respectful Relationship Education (CRRE). It outlines the legal, moral and ethical obligations that underpin CRRE and provides practical tools to strengthen safe, consistent and culturally responsive practice.

Introduction to Consent & Respectful Relationships

This program provides an overview of the core components of CRRE and introduces the frameworks that guide whole-school implementation. It supports staff to review current practice, identify strengths and gaps, and establish clear priorities for development.

When: 19 February 2026 **Cost:** \$50 **Registration Closes 12 February 2026**

Staff, Student & Community Engagement, Empowerment & Voice

This program focuses on building meaningful engagement with staff, students and the wider community. It examines approaches that promote voice, empowerment and shared responsibility, and supports schools to tailor CRRE in ways that are relevant and culturally responsive to their context.

When: 4 June 2026 **Cost:** \$50 **Registration Closes 28 May 2026**

Teaching & Learning

This program supports schools to strengthen CRRE through curriculum design and delivery. It covers curriculum alignment, program selection, scope and sequence development, and strategies for embedding CRRE across learning areas and year levels.

When: 18 August 2026 **Cost:** \$50 **Registration Closes 11 August 2026**

Evaluation & Data: 22 October 2026

This program builds capability to evaluate CRRE implementation and measure impact. It introduces tools and processes for collecting and analysing data, assessing effectiveness and identifying opportunities for continuous improvement.

When: 22 October 2026 **Cost:** \$50 **Registration Closes 15 October 2026**

Designed For: School Leaders, Wellbeing Teams, Teachers & Support Staff

AITSL Standards: 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 2.1, 2.2, 3.2, 3.4, 3.6, 3.7, 4.1, 4.3, 4.4, 6.1, 6.2, 6.3, 7.1, 7.2 and 7.3

Contact: Michele Oliphant

Location: Online via Zoom

Professional Development // Semester 1

AITSL Middle Leaders Pilot

Overview: This pilot program supports leaders to strengthen the capacity of middle leaders through the implementation of the AITSL Middle Leader Standards. Participants attend a one-day workshop and gain access to an online self-reflection tool and up to five optional online sessions across the 12-month pilot, exploring high-impact leadership practices.

When: 12 February 2026

Location: Darwin

Designed For: Middle Leaders in schools

AITSL Standards: AITSL Middle Leader Standards 1,5,6

Contact: Rachel Boyce

Registration Closes 29 January 2026

Early Career Teacher Workshop

Overview: This workshop outlines the NT Teacher Registration Board (TRB) requirements for achieving Proficient Teacher accreditation. Participants will receive ongoing support throughout the year to develop their Proficient Teacher Portfolio.

When: 24 February 2026

Location: Darwin

Designed For: Graduate teachers working towards Proficient Accreditation

AITSL Standards: 6.1; 6.2; 6.3

Contact: Rachel Boyce

Registration Closes 5 February 2026

Positive Partnerships (Autism PD)

Overview: This program strengthens capability to support autistic students through evidence-informed strategies. It includes online learning activities completed before and after the workshop, along with two in-person workshop days focused on practical classroom application.

When: 25-26 February 2026

Location: Darwin

Designed For: Teachers working with students with Autism

AITSL Standards: 1.3; 1.5; 1.6; 3.1; 3.5; 4.1; 4.4

Contact: Rachel Boyce

Registration Closes 24 February 2026

Professional Development // Semester 1

Early Career Teacher Workshop

Overview: This workshop outlines the NT Teacher Registration Board (TRB) requirements for achieving Proficient Teacher accreditation. Participants will receive ongoing support throughout the year to develop their Proficient Teacher Portfolio.

When: 2 March 2026

Location: Alice Springs

Designed For: Graduate teachers working towards Proficient Accreditation

AITSL Standards: 6.1; 6.2; 6.3

Contact: Rachel Boyce

Registration Closes 5 February 2026

Walking in Two Worlds

Overview: Walking in Two Worlds has been designed to support long-term employment retention for First Nations people. The training helps First Nations employees 'walk in two worlds' by examining cultural difference, learning why cultures organise the world the way that they do, and how difference cultural approaches can be managed, using practical examples and instructive role-playing. Participants learn how to apply self-reflection tools to better understand an individual cultural perspective, and develop skills and strategies to work more effectively in cross-cultural contexts.

When: 28-29 April 2026

Location: Darwin

Designed For: First Nation Employees.

Contact: Ian Smith

Registration Closes 27 February 2026

Superhero Student Leadership | Burn Bright

Overview: This program develops leadership capacity in upper-primary students through interactive activities that builds confidence, teamwork and positive influence.

When: 29 April 2026

Location: Darwin

Designed For: Students in Years 5/6

Contact: Rachel Boyce

Registration Closes 19 March 2026

Professional Development // Semester 1

Adaptive Leadership in a Crazy World: Masterclass with Dr Dean Williams

Overview: The one day workshop will be a deep dive into the popular adaptive leadership framework as taught by Dean Williams and Ron Heifetz at Harvard Kennedy School. Dean Williams will present the master class, and a comprehensive competency model for the exercise of adaptive leadership.

When: 20 May 2026

Location: Darwin

Designed For: School Leaders

Cost: \$850

Contact: Rachel Boyce

Youth Mental Health First Aid

Overview: This two-day workshop builds knowledge and understanding of common mental health challenges experienced by young people aged 12-18. It develops the skills to recognise signs of distress, understand the impact of stigma, provide initial support and connect a young person with appropriate professional help.

When: 26-27 May 2026

Location: Darwin

Designed For: Teachers in Upper Primary/Secondary

AITSL Standards: 4.4; 6.2; 7.4

Cost: \$50

Contact: Rachel Boyce

Registration Closes 23 April 2026

Professional Development // Semester 2

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Youth Mental Health First Aid

Overview: This two-day workshop builds knowledge and understanding of mental health challenges experienced by Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander young people. It develops the skills to recognise signs of distress, understand the impact of stigma, provide culturally responsive initial support, and connect young people with appropriate professional help.

When: 8-9 September 2026

Location: Alice Springs

Designed For: Teachers in Upper Primary/Secondary

AITSL Standards: 1.4, 4.4; 6.2; 7.4

Cost: \$50

Contact: Rachel Boyce

Registration Closes 30 July 2026

Walking in Two Worlds

Overview: Walking in Two Worlds has been designed to support long-term employment retention for First Nations people. The training helps First Nations employees to learn to 'walk in two worlds' by examining cultural difference, learning why cultures organise the world the way that they do, and how difference cultural approaches can be managed, using practical examples and instructive role-playing. Participants learn how to apply self-reflection tools to better understand an individual cultural perspective, and develop skills and strategies to work more effectively in cross-cultural contexts.

When: 19-20 October 2026

Location: Alice Springs

Designed For: First Nation Employees.

Contact: Ian Smith

Registration Closes 14 September 2026





Thank you for exploring our 2026 professional learning opportunities. We look forward to seeing you at upcoming events.

The dates and costs are correct at time of distribution however these may be subject to change. AISNT will update events and Professional Learning opportunities on the website www.aisnt.asn.au or contact us if you have any questions.

