



# MEDIA RELEASE

Australian Council of State School Organisations Limited

## **ACSSO President Damien Ellwood Welcomes Families Back for the 2024 School Year**

As students across the nation gear up to return to school, the Australian Council of State School Organisations (ACSSO) President Damien Ellwood extends a warm welcome to all families embarking on the new academic year 2024.

"Education is a journey that involves the whole community. As we step into the 2024 school year, it's with a sense of renewed optimism and commitment to our students' growth and learning," said Damien Ellwood, President of ACSSO. "Our schools are more than just educational institutions; they are vibrant communities where our children grow, learn, and shape their futures."

This year, ACSSO focuses on enhancing educational experiences by promoting inclusive practices, supporting innovative learning methods, and ensuring that every student has access to quality education. "Our goal is to create environments where every student can thrive, and each child and family feels supported," added Mr Ellwood.

ACSSO acknowledges the challenges of recent years and appreciates the resilience and adaptability shown by students, teachers, and families. ACSSO is committed to working alongside school communities to address the ongoing challenges experienced by many and to celebrate all their achievements.

"We are incredibly proud of the resilience of our school communities and the positive contribution they make to their school environments," Damien remarked. "Their spirit of collaboration and contribution will support Australian education to excel and stand out. We have a shared interest in all children achieving their best, and our voices united can advocate for adequate funding, inclusion and greater educational support for all children and young people. Here's to a supportive, successful, enriching, and joyful 2024 school year."

ACSSO invites families and schools to engage actively with their local school communities, participate in events, and contribute to the ongoing dialogue about education in Australia. School parent and community organisations and their state peaks provide a forum to engage, contribute and influence public education outcomes for Australia.

The Australian Council of State School Organisations is the peak national body representing the interests of the families and communities of more than 2.4 million children attending government schools in Australia. ACSSO advocates for equitable and quality educational outcomes for all children and young people.

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*The national voice for families, carers, and communities in government education*