



Australian Council of State School Organisations Limited

THE AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL OF STATE SCHOOL ORGANISATIONS
SUBMISSION TO THE COPYRIGHT ENFORCEMENT REVIEW

The Australian Council of State School Organisations (ACSSO) is Australia's single national voice for every family involved in government education.

As an organisation, ACSSO appreciates the opportunity to participate in the Copyright Enforcement Review.

ACSSO notes that the review's goal, as stated in the Discussion Paper, is to understand current and emerging enforcement priorities and challenges, as well as to gather views from all parts of the copyright system - including owners, users, institutions, and service providers - on whether Australia's copyright enforcement regime remains relevant, effective, and proportionate, and to seek feedback on whether existing enforcement mechanisms should be supplemented or strengthened.

Simultaneously, ACSSO recognises the significance of copyright law in assisting copyright producers to generate Australian material and be compensated for their efforts.

The existing outmoded and archaic copyright restrictions, according to ACSSO, harm Australian schools and, by extension, Australian students, and change is long needed.

Copyright protects many aspects of teaching and learning in our institutions. ACSSO, on the other hand, believes that present copyright legislation/enforcement has fallen behind in the twenty-first century's developing digital environment.

Teachers and students are more likely than ever to use and engage with media in ways that raise copyright concerns as their educational and social activities migrate online.

Australian schools are being penalised for employing digital technology in the present COVID setting, because remote learning may be needed again at any moment. Due to the way copyright restrictions are handled, ACSSO realises that providing students with access to information through digital technology may be up to four times more costly than hard copy methods. We feel that copyright law has evolved into a complex framework that prohibits teachers and schools from knowing what they may and cannot share.

ACSSO supports any revisions to clarify and/or revise the Copyright Act 1968 and its regulations to permit:

- the performance, watching, or viewing of copyrighted material in class; and
- any copying, communication, or recording essential to aid instruction.

Although ACSSO recognises that there are several exceptions where no payment is required for educational use of copyright material, we believe that the special provisions in the Copyright Act and its enforcement should be expanded to allow educational institutions increase their use of copyright material for educational purposes without seeking specific permission from the copyright owner.

One voice for every child in government education

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As requested, the Australian Council of State School Organisations provides the following in relation to this submission.

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Do you wish your submission to be treated as confidential?

No