

MEDIA RELEASE

Australian Council of State School Organisations Limited

National Sorry Day

Today, May 26, as a nation, we acknowledge National Sorry Day. On this day, we remember the negative impact Australian policies, practices, and attitudes have had on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. This year also marks the referendum on the Voice and reflection on the Uluru Statement from the Heart.

It is a time to focus on our shared histories, cultures, and achievements and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia.

"National Sorry Day and Reconciliation Week remind us that Australia's colonial past has benefitted some Australians whilst exploiting others. The shared story of Australia's past must be grounded in truth," stated Sharron Healy, President of the Australian Council of State School Organisations (ACSSO). "Only by acknowledging the wrongs of the past can we work together to make our country stronger and more inclusive".

"We are encouraged by the commitment of the newly elected Albanese Government to the Uluru Statement from the Heart and the constitutional recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people", continued Mrs Healy

"Family is at the forefront of ACSSO's core values. Australians need to continue to work together to support the health and well-being of those from the Stolen Generation who are still recovering from the loss of family, loss of culture and loss of life.

The journey of reconciliation will take time and commitment from every Australian, but every step forward creates a more solid foundation for our country to walk together," concluded Sharron.

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