

AHISA MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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In praise of Australia's teachers

WORLD TEACHERS' DAY 28 OCTOBER 2022

On behalf of its members, the Association of Heads of Independent Schools of Australia (AHISA) extends a very warm “thank you” to educators for another year of outstanding effort on behalf of young Australians.

‘The COVID-19 pandemic continues to have a profound impact on schools and all those who work and learn in them,’ said AHISA CEO, Ms Beth Blackwood.

‘In 2020 and 2021 Australia learnt that teachers are agile and innovative, rapidly adopting new skills and adapting resources to meet their students’ needs during remote learning. In 2022 Australia has discovered not only that teachers are an essential national resource, but that they are a resource in limited supply,’ said Ms Blackwood.

‘Teachers are calling for respect for their work, and the very least Australia can do to show appreciation for their exceptional contribution over the last three years is to demonstrate that respect – not just on World Teachers’ Day, but every day,’ said Ms Blackwood.

Ms Blackwood said it is important that teachers are given both personal and professional respect.

‘Teachers are highly trained and educated and must undergo continuing professional learning to maintain their professional registration,’ said Ms Blackwood. ‘Many, many families discovered during remote learning the depth of professional knowledge and expertise that is required to support students’ learning. That understanding is a great basis on which we can build greater community respect for teachers.’

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AHISA is a professional association of 450 Heads of independent schools. Its members lead schools that collectively account for over 11 per cent of total Australian school enrolments and 70 per cent of independent sector enrolments. Over 44,000 teachers are employed in AHISA members’ schools.