



A Charter for Teachers

Preamble

The Independent Education Union of Australia (IEUA) represents teachers in non-government education. The IEUA is committed to ensuring that the essential work of teachers and their unique contribution to the cultural identity of Australia is known, understood and valued by the wider community.

The social, moral and economic wellbeing of the nation depends on the provision of high quality education for all Australians. It is the foundation upon which Australia's democracy is built. It requires continued commitment and appropriate resourcing by all levels of government.

Teachers have a strong sense of the dignity and worth of their work and believe that it is important to share and expand the knowledge of their profession. They believe that as members of the teaching profession, they have an individual and collective responsibility to advocate to the community the value of their work in educating students in the knowledge, skills, values and attitudes that our society supports.

Quality education depends on teachers who are highly educated, professionally expert in the classroom and for whom student learning outcomes are a priority. The IEUA **Charter for Teachers** articulates the shared values and principles that teachers hold about their profession and the nature of their work.

Guiding Principles

Teachers accept and respect that the teaching-learning relationship is critical as are teachers' relationships to other adults responsible for the child.

Teachers are accountable for their work and recognise that integral parts of their role are the evaluation of student outcomes and the sharing of information with relevant parties.

Teachers recognise individual differences in students and develop and implement appropriate teaching and learning strategies which respect such differences.

Teachers have a thorough knowledge of the content of what they are teaching and an appreciation that the process and content of learning are interdependent.

Teachers exercise professional autonomous judgements every day within a complex and multi-faceted work context.

Teachers work with each other in a culture of trust, shared decision making and open communication.

Teachers assist and support their colleagues and share their knowledge, expertise and experience to enhance their work and that of their colleagues.

Teachers believe that the teaching and learning environment must be safe, caring and free of harassment for all staff and students.