



RURAL AND REMOTE SCHOOLS

It is recommended that this Policy be read in conjunction with the Education Allowances Policy, other individual Portfolio Policies and associated ICPA Aust documents

POLICY

ICPA seeks to ensure delivery of quality educational services to students in rural and remote schools.

OBJECTIVES

1. Governments and education departments recognise that not all schools can meet the needs of all students.
2. Specialist teachers and student support services are available in rural and remote schools
3. Staffing allocation considers the individual enrolment needs of rural and remote schools.
4. The following inequities are considered when the allocation of resources is determined for rural and remote schools:
 - a. personal and professional isolation of teachers,
 - b. reduced secondary curriculum options which can be offered,
 - c. level of staff experience,
 - d. additional postage and telephone costs,
 - e. technology access and operating costs,
 - f. additional time staff and students must be away from school to participate in regional and state activities, together with associated costs
 - g. difficulty in recruiting and retaining suitable staff and
 - h. impact of administration workloads on time for teaching and leading learning.
5. All students in rural and remote schools have access to up-to-date educational technology.
6. All school staff receive professional development in the use of technology.
7. Technology enhances rather than replaces face-to-face interaction for students, teachers and parents.
8. All secondary core subjects are delivered face-to-face by teachers who are trained in and qualified to teach those core subjects.
9. A rural education unit is available in teacher training courses.
10. Pre-service practicums are available in a diversity of teaching situations including rural and remote schools.



Isolated Children's Parents' Association of Australia (Inc) FEDERAL COUNCIL

"Advocating for equitable access to education for students in rural and remote Australia"

11. The Assistance for Isolated Children (AIC) allowance is available to families who do not have access to a school which meets the needs of their children.
12. Appropriate schools as defined for AIC eligibility should not include schools where English is the second language and schools where the syllabus and teaching arrangements are modified, resulting in a limited curriculum on offer compared to the general curriculum of schools in a state or territory.
13. Extra resources and funding are made available specifically for students in rural and remote areas to provide access to a wide range of educational opportunities.

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