



JOINT MEDIA STATEMENT

8 NOVEMBER 2021

**Isolated Children's Parents' Association of Australia
Isolated Children's Parents' Association of Queensland
Isolated Children's Parents' Association of New South Wales
Isolated Children's Parents' Association of Northern Territory
Isolated Children's Parents' Association of Western Australia
Isolated Children's Parents' Association of South Australia
Australian Boarding Schools Association**

Border Chaos Continues - Enough is Enough

As term four of the school year draws to a close over the coming weeks, the combined Councils of the Isolated Children's Parents' Association, along with the Australian Boarding Schools Association, once again implore all governments to immediately implement the National Code for Boarding Students as a matter of urgency and as intended.

When the National Code for Boarding School Students was endorsed by National Cabinet in September, high hopes were held for our geographically isolated interstate boarding students. However, there continues to be inconsistency surrounding the implementation of the Code across jurisdictions, adding to the immeasurable stress, anxiety and concern boarding students and their families continue to face 20 months on.

It is critical that all State and Territory Governments move quickly to act on guidelines within the National Code to provide families with a consistent plan that addresses the processes moving forward. Families, students and schools need to know what to expect should there be an outbreak and what that looks like across varying vaccination rates for each State and Territory.

Interstate families, together with all concerned stakeholders should not be thrown into chaos heading into another school year. It is time for certainty, consistency and clarity.

Enough is enough!

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