



This week's stories from the media

- Anti-discrimination laws on uniform choice for girls
- Keith Area School drug and alcohol education
- 60% of students live outside high school boundaries
- Departments lesson plans to help new teachers
- SA unis overhaul of ATAR
- SA facing childcare worker shortage

Keith School Drug Education

Keith Area School students will take part in an 'Encounter Youth' student presentation, which will provide them with important information about drugs and alcohol.

'Encounter Youth' is the largest provider of alcohol and other drug education to SA secondary school students.

Each year group will be introduced to topics which cater specifically to what students would be experiencing during that period in their life.

Year 9 students will undertake 'Know Your Limits' which focuses on shaping identity, positive and negative risk taking and strategies to deal with risky situations.

Year 10-11 students will take part in "Who's Calling the Shots" which focuses on brain development, trends in illicit drug use and realities of alcohol use.

Finally, Year 12 students will be taught how to stay safe at Schoolies Festival, an event which many school leavers use to let their hair down.

[Full Story](#)

Anti-Discrimination Laws On Uniform Choice For Girls

Anti-discrimination laws should be used to force schools to let girls wear shorts and trousers, a Flinders University expert says after finding most private schools - and a few public ones - are still refusing to make the change.

Associate Professor Sarah Cohen-Woods says it should not take a complaint to the Equal Opportunity Commissioner for action to be taken.

Her latest study includes the first comprehensive analysis of public schools' uniforms since the SA Education Department mandated from 2017 that they must comply with anti-discrimination laws.

Prof Cohen-Woods found all public schools allowed girls to wear trousers but seven did not make shorts an option.

A small proportion of public schools provided only one type of so-called "unisex" long pants or shorts, meaning girls were likely being told that if they wanted to wear trousers, they had to be ones made for boys.

The study says that is a problem for post-pubescent girls whose body shapes differ from boys, putting girls at risk of bullying.

Private schools were far worse, with just a quarter offering shorts for girls and less than half allowing trousers.

The department said school dress codes should be flexible and allow students the right of choice regardless of gender.

[More](#)



“...a problem for post-pubescent girls whose body shapes differ from boys, putting girls at risk of bullying....”

60% Of Students Live Outside Of High School Boundaries

The ABC revealed that 60 per cent of Adelaide High School's students live outside the popular school's zone.

The popular Unley and Marryatville high schools have the highest proportion of out-of-zone students, with more than three in four students living outside the zone boundaries.

Salisbury High is third in the rankings, with 73% of students coming from outside the zone.

The data shows that even Henley High and Glenunga International High School - which have capacity management plans in place due to their popularity - have about half of their students travelling to school from outside the zone.

All up, out-of-zone students make up the majority of enrolments in 21 of South Australia's 45 zoned high schools.

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Departments Lesson Plans To Help New Teachers

Detailed curriculum guides will be produced for all major subject areas at every level up to Year 10 - including individual lesson plans - with a view to helping smaller schools and “overwhelmed” new teachers.

Department chief executive Rick Perse says curriculum support is the “next big piece of work” to improve SA's public schools.

He said the Australian Curriculum was “super broad”, which made it tough for some teachers and principals to translate into “really high impact lesson plans”.

“They've heard what I've heard: New first year, second year out (of university) teachers just overwhelmed in terms of having to prepare lessons and not being able to tap into this kind of central support,” Mr Perse said.

“What we've heard is for a new teacher, (or) for a new leader particularly in a small school in the bush, pulling together all that detail and data and structure is a huge amount of work.”

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SA Unis Overhaul Of ATAR

SA's three university vice-chancellors are discussing a significant overhaul of tertiary entrance processes, as concerns grow that the ATAR student ranking system is fundamentally flawed.

Principals and other experts have been increasingly critical of ATARs for skewing Year 12 subject choices, being too narrow a measure of aptitude for university study, allowing schools to “game the system” and heightening student anxiety and depression.

A particular concern is how high school students drop high-level maths and science subjects in favour of easier Year 12 subjects in order to maximise their ATAR.

[Full Story](#)

School Post

Term 3 Edition In School Soon!



SA Facing Childcare Shortage

South Australia about to face chronic shortage of childcare workers as more and more centres get approved.

The state's childcare industry says it faces a crisis of “chronic” staff shortages and financial struggles caused by a “perfect storm” of factors - a glut of proposed centres, requirements for more teachers, and disincentives for new workers.

More than 100 new centres are in the pipeline, adding to the “20 or 30” that have opened in the past two years.

New centres will exacerbate the problem caused by a national requirement, coming into force next year, for centres with more than 60 children to have a second qualified early childhood teacher.

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