

WACSSO Conference 2023

*Yours, Mine, Ours -
Taking Collective Care of our Children*



**Crown Perth
August 19 & 20**



WACSSO Conference 2023

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Crown Perth, August 19 & 20



Preliminary Timetable

Last days!

Register now!



Saturday 19 August	
7:30am	Delegate Registration <i>Includes coffee/tea in Exhibitor Hall</i>
8:30am	89th WACSSO Conference opens Welcome to Country
8:45am	President's Welcome
9:10am	Student Performance Mount Pleasant Primary School
9:20am	Containers for Change Tim Cusack, CEO <i>Platinum Sponsor Address</i>
9:25am	Minister for Education Hon Dr Tony Buti MLA Director General, Department of Education Lisa Rodgers President, WACSSO Pania Turner
10:05am	Department of Education Student Council Presentation
10:15am	Morning Tea break
10:45am	Annual General Meeting President presents Annual Report Agenda Items
11:25am	Keynote Presentation Dr Helen Street <i>Helping Your Children to Thrive at School and Beyond</i>
12:10pm	Hot Buffet Lunch <i>Sponsored by Containers for Change</i>
1:10pm	Student Panel <i>Voices of the Future</i>
1:50pm	Expert Panel <i>Addressing e-Cigarettes (Vaping) in School Children</i>
2:20pm	Lotterywest Group Photo
2:25pm	Afternoon Tea
3:00pm	Workshop Sessions
4:15pm	Conference Adjourns
4:30- 6:00pm	Networking Sundowner Exhibitor Hall <i>Sponsored by Grange Insurance</i>

Saturday Workshops (3:00pm start) <i>Choose one of the following:</i>	
Workshop 1	The Business of Running a Canteen
Workshop 2	Positive Parenting Program - Helping parents to raise happy, healthy and confident children
Workshop 3	Containers for Change: help the environment and raise funds for your P&C!
Workshop 4	Social Media 101

Sunday 20 August	
8:00am	'Breakfast Club' Networking Sunriser <i>Sponsored by Foodbank</i> <i>Includes coffee/tea and breakfast bites</i>
9:00am	Workshop Sessions
10:20am	WACSSO Table Talk: Building a Knowledge Network
10:40am	<i>Gold Partner Address</i> Triple P Speaker to be advised
10:45am	Commissioner for Children and Young People Jacqueline McGowan-Jones
11:05am	Interactive Session: Insights on P&Cs Dr Megan Paull, Dr Katherine Sugars
12:00pm	Buffet Lunch
1:10pm	Prize Draws and Awards: Good News Story Draw Merit Certificate Acknowledgements Exhibitor Award People's Choice Art Award President's Choice Art Awards
1:30pm	Keynote Presentation Kendall Whyte <i>Building a Future Worth Living For</i>
2:00pm	Student Performance Indigo Ellis
2:15pm	President closing remarks
2:30pm	Conference Closes

**Interact with
delegates and enter
exclusive prize
draws in the
WACSSO
Conference App!**

**An invitation to
download will be
emailed to delegates
in early August**



Sunday Workshops (9:00am start) <i>Choose one of the following:</i>	
Workshop 5	P&Cs and Principals: Powerful Partnerships
Workshop 6	Cyber Safety: Parenting in the Digital Age
Workshop 7	Volunteering WA: Bye Bye Burnout!
Workshop 8	Incident Management at Schools: How P&Cs can help Communities Impacted by Significant Events



Guest Speakers



Guest Speaker

Hon Dr Tony Buti BPE DipEd MIR LLB DPhil MLA

Minister for Education; Aboriginal Affairs; Citizenship and Multicultural Interests

The Hon. Dr Tony Buti is Western Australia's Minister for Education; Aboriginal Affairs; Citizenship and Multicultural Interests. He has been a Minister for the WA Labor Government since March 2021, and was elected the Member for Armadale on 2 October 2010. Dr Buti has worked as a high school teacher, lawyer, AFL player agent, and legal academic. Dr Buti has published a number of books, most recently *Alkira*, a book named after his daughter that challenges us to rethink how we approach disability to move toward a more just and inclusive society. He has three adult children, and in the early mornings can often be spotted jogging through the Kelmscott hills or near Parliament.

Prior to becoming a Minister, Dr Buti was Chairman of the Western Australian Legislative Assembly Public Accounts Committee, and while in opposition, he was Deputy Chair of the Community Development and Justice Standing Committee.



Guest Speaker

Lisa Rodgers

Director General - Department of Education

Lisa was appointed as the Director General of the Department of Education in January 2018. Lisa is a widely respected leader in education with a clear focus on progress and achievement for all students. She is a powerful voice and advocate of reform and reconciliation and is highly committed to student outcomes, connected communities and effective leadership in schools.

Lisa has held a variety of roles ranging from psychologist, specialising in child mental health, through to executive leadership. She started her career in the public sector as an Intelligence Officer in the British Army, followed by long term appointments as the Chief Executive Officer of the Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership, based in Melbourne and the Deputy Secretary of Education in New Zealand. Lisa has a degree in psychology and served as a Board Director on The Foundation for Young Australians. In 2021, Lisa was awarded the ACEL WA Pre-eminent Educational Leader Award.



Guest Speaker

Jacqueline McGowan-Jones

Commissioner for Children and Young People

Jacqueline McGowan-Jones began her appointment as Commissioner for Children and Young People in January 2022. Jacqueline has a long history working in the Government (Commonwealth, WA and Victorian), non-Government and Aboriginal Community Controlled Sectors. Her experience across portfolios such as Disability, Child Protection, Education, Health & Human Services and Law & Justice has given her the opportunity to work with children, young people, families and communities across Western Australia and understand the challenges they face.

Jacqueline is passionate about the future for our children and young people and believes the role of Commissioner brings high expectations from our children and young people, so they have a strong voice to advocate their views across Government.



Voices of the Future Student Panel



Voices of the Future Student Panellist

Josh Patrick

Northam Senior High School

Joshua is a passionate advocate for the power of community. Growing up as one of the primary carers for his sister has taught him a lot about responsibility, kindness and sharing knowledge to lift others up. In this speech, Josh will reflect on the positive impact numerous interconnected community members have had on him and his family and the power of resilience and optimism.

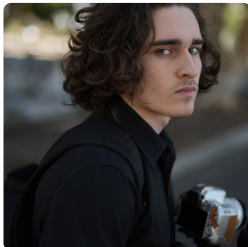


Voices of the Future Student Panellist

Alexis Milne

Collie Senior High School

Alexis has a passion for volunteering. Inspired by her mum, Alexis started her volunteering journey at just 8 and has been helping out in her community in various roles ever since, most recently as a gymnastics coach. In her presentation, Alexis will reflect on what volunteering has gifted her, the power of community and how volunteering has led her to decisions about her future career.



Voices of the Future Student Panellist

Jon Copson

John Curtin College of the Arts

Jon is an award-winning filmmaker, with a goal of becoming a future movie director. While screening the audience a sample of his work, Jon will talk about why he made this film, the path it took to get to this point, and future endeavours. Jon's film captures the ATAR journey and saw him win international acclaim for his work.



Voices of the Future Student Panellist

Molly Ireland

Kent Street Senior High School

Molly has a passion for aviation. She will speak on how this passion started and the ways in which her school's aviation program will help her achieve her dream of being a Royal Flying Doctor Service pilot.



Keynote Speakers



Keynote Presentation - Helping Children Thrive

Dr Helen Street

As parents, we all want our children to thrive in life. We want them to experience wellbeing, to feel well and to do well – at home and at school. But what does 'doing and being well' actually mean in terms of day-to-day life? Moreover, how can we best support our children in achieving these lofty aims?

Certainly, the vast literature available on 'successful parenting', 'school-based wellbeing initiatives' and the 'pursuit of happiness' can leave the most determined of us confused and overwhelmed.

In this talk Helen will explore what it means to grow up successful and well in 2023. In so doing, she will introduce ideas and practical strategies to support a sense of 'belonging' and 'learning engagement' as core pillars of living well at home and learning well at school.

When we understand how to help our children connect well to the contexts of their lives, we understand how best to help them experience lifelong wellbeing and success.

Dr Helen Street is an internationally acclaimed expert in supporting wellbeing, an educational consultant and an applied social psychologist. She is the founder of Positive Schools and Contextual Wellbeing, a consultant to schools worldwide, a best-selling author and an honorary fellow at The University of Western Australia.



Keynote Presentation - Building a Future Worth Living For

Kendall Whyte

Kendall Whyte is the founder and CEO of Blue Tree Project, a grass-roots movement which has flourished into a charity making an impact across regional Australia.

Blue Tree Project is a WA based mental health charity with a mission to help spark difficult conversations and encourage people to speak up when battling mental health concerns. They are doing this by giving trees a 'blue lease on life' and bringing people together to create safer spaces and places to talk about mental health.

Within three years, the Blue Tree Project has become a powerful platform to; help promote and facilitate better understanding of mental health, provide free education seminars, and create engaging community events within regional parts of Australia. By bringing people together to help create safer communities, she hopes to spread the paint and spread the message that 'it's ok to not be ok'.



Invited Speakers



Interactive Session - Engaging Volunteers and Building Parent Participation: Initial Research Findings

Dr Megan Paull, Murdoch University

Dr Kath Sugars, Murdoch University

Recruiting parent volunteers is a perennial problem for P&Cs, an issue made more challenging in recent years. P&Cs are valuable contributors to public education, but their essential contributions would not be possible without the efforts and engagement of committed volunteers.



In partnership with Murdoch University, WACSSO was awarded a research grant from Volunteering WA to investigate how to engage a diverse range of parents in volunteer work. This research is investigating what works (and doesn't work) in recruiting and retaining volunteers, how we can increase volunteer participation and how we can make P&Cs more diverse and inclusive. This interactive plenary session will provide preliminary results and test findings with delegates.



Platinum Sponsor Address

Tim Cusack, CEO WARRRL (Containers for Change)

Tim Cusack is an experienced supply chain and leadership professional with 30 years' experience, working with some of Australia's leading companies across the food, beverage and packaging industries, delivering major change and development programs. Tim's experience, commitment and passion have been instrumental to WARRRL's success in establishing and operating a world class container deposit scheme in Western Australia.

Tim will be discussing the enormous impact that WA P&C trailblazers have made via Containers for Change since its inception, saving millions of containers from landfill whilst raising much needed funds for WA schools and communities.



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Workshop Presentation Sessions

Saturday 19 August

All Saturday workshops commence at 3.00pm. Please select only ONE workshop to attend - numbers are limited and registrations will be accepted via the WACSSO Conference App in early August.



Workshop 1: The Business of Running a Canteen

Megan Sauzier, CEO, Western Australian School Canteen Association (WASCA)

Lois Andrijich, Director, Life at Work

Debbie Booth, Finance, Training and Development Officer, WACSSO

Running a small business isn't easy, and when you're doing it in a volunteer capacity it can be overwhelming! This workshop aims to guide you through some of the issues our school canteens face and empower you in three key areas: running a successful business, nurturing your invaluable team, and optimising operations.

Debbie Booth commenced with WACSSO as a trainer in 2004, has run a successful small business and is currently working in finance. Debbie will focus on the canteen financial management area including reporting and budgeting, along with obligations that your P&C must address.

Lois Andrijich is the Director of Life at Work and has over 15 years' experience in Human Resources roles across for-profit and not-for-profit sectors. Lois holds a Masters in HR Management, a Certificate in Strategic Management, and undergraduate and Honours degrees in Psychology. Lois will address the Human Resources component of your canteen business.

Megan Sauzier is the Chief Executive Officer of the Western Australian School Canteen Association (WASCA) and holds a Bachelor of Health Science (Nutrition) with Honours, she joined WASCA in 2006. Megan's presentation will provide guidance on optimising the operations of your canteen.



Workshop 2: Positive Parenting Program - Helping parents to raise happy, healthy and confident children

Dr Lisa Studman, Positive Parenting Program (Triple P)

When we track the long-term physical and mental health and well-being of children into adulthood, what do we find out about what matters most in their developmental years? What can families do to provide the love, nurturance, care, and encouragement that builds self-esteem, self-regulation and well-being in our children? Lisa will demonstrate how Triple P - Positive Parenting Program® (Triple P) supports parents to improve their child's wellbeing and long-term quality of life. She will provide information for workshop participants on how to promote free and universal parent access to Triple P - from parent seminars to online programs. Promotional materials will be made available and there will be opportunities for discussion and questions.

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Workshop 3: Containers for Change, help the environment and raise funds for your P&C!

Pippa Gauden, Community Development Lead, Containers for Change

Learn how to access free bins, collection bags and resources to get your P&C set up with Containers for Change! Here how other P&Cs are getting their school and community involved!

Pippa is a community development professional and grass roots advocate, passionate about sustainability and the role community-led organisations play in major social change movements. Pippa has a background in Local Government, grant making, disability & social inclusion, and community building programs. When it comes to Containers for Change Pippa believes the biggest impact can be made by WA's already formidable grassroots volunteers and community champions.

Containers for Change works with the local community, beverage companies, recyclers, and the waste industry to recycle containers, saving more than 2 billion 10¢ containers from landfill since it launched in 2020. Containers for Change are proud to be the Platinum Sponsor once again, for the WACSSO Annual Conference, in recognition of the enormous contribution that WA P&Cs have made towards the billions of containers saved from WA landfill over the last 3 years.



Workshop 4: Social Media 101

Susanna Wills-Johnson, Indah Yildiz, WACSSO

Do you manage the P&C Facebook page? Are you thinking 'should we make a TikTok?' Would you like to see more people engage with your content online?

Schools and P&Cs, just like all organisations, should be engaging with their communities in the spaces that they occupy, and this includes social media. But, it can be hard to know where to start and what the pitfalls and hazards are of running a business account.

If you are already running a social media account for your P&C, or if you want to learn more about how to engage with your community online, this workshop is for you.

Together, we'll look at free tools to make your social media pages look their best, we'll discuss some of the more serious aspects of running a social media account and look at your rights and responsibilities, plus we'll map out a content plan together so you leave the workshop with a practical tool to take back to your school.



Workshop Presentation Sessions

Sunday 20 August

All Sunday workshops commence at 9.00am. Please select only ONE workshop to attend - numbers are limited and registrations will be accepted via the WACSSO Conference App in early August.



Workshop 5: P&Cs and Principals: Powerful Partnerships

Pania Turner, President, WACSSO & Niel Smith, President, WAPPA

When P&C Associations work collaboratively with their school administration, the partnership is powerful. The communication and relationship between a P&C President and the School Principal can make or break the school-P&C partnership; so how do we nurture and grow this relationship? In this workshop, the President of WACSSO and the President of the Western Australian Primary Principals' Association (WAPPA) will host an informal discussion and Q&A session that will provide tips and advice for you to strengthen this important relationship back at your school. Working together, Principals and P&Cs are better placed to achieve positive outcomes for students and families.

Pania Turner was elected President of WACSSO in 2019 and has been a WACSSO State Councillor and P&C President. Over the course of her P&C experience, Pania has seen many positive relationships between P&Cs and schools that benefit the whole school community.

Niel Smith is the current President of the WA Primary Principals' Association, which has over 1100 members across the State, in close to 90% of all primary schools. Over 24 years, Niel has been a school leader across nine schools, spanning four education regions. In addition to this, Niel has held the positions of Consultant Principal and Principal Advisor with the Department of Education. Niel's most recent principal position was at West Greenwood PS, which he led between 2017-2020.



Workshop 6: Cyber Safety: Parenting in the Digital Age

Kayelene Kerr, Founder eSafeKids

The internet has transformed the way we learn, create, connect and are entertained. It has given our children access to the world, but has also given the world access to our children. Parenting in the digital age can be complex and challenging. Whilst there are many benefits for our children being online, there are also risks. As the trusted adults in children's lives we can support them to maximise the benefits and minimise and manage the risks. Guidance, education and protection have the potential to empower children to use technology respectfully, responsibly, critically and creatively. You will leave this comprehensive and evidence based parent/carer workshop with up-to-date information, conversation starters, practical strategies and resource recommendations.

Workshop Content

- Protecting developing bodies, brains and behaviour
- Screen time, 'tech tantrums', rules, restrictions and boundaries
- Pornography and sexualised media
- Online grooming, cat phishing and sextortion
- Parental control tools
- Resource and book recommendations

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Workshop Presentation Sessions

Sunday 20 August

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Workshop 7: Bye Bye Burnout!

Presenter: Louise Giles, Volunteering WA

Have you got a P&C meeting coming up and you have lots to do prior, or have an event with no current support? We know what it's like to feel a little tense and it's not nice. Stress can help you to stay on your toes, but what if the stress stays because of your workload, conflict or being unable to delegate? If your body has not been given the time to recharge, then you run a risk of burn out, a state of having used up all your energy. In this session, you will learn, but not limited to how burn out develops and what you can do to prevent it.

Louise has a passion for facilitating, education and development and with over twenty-five years' experience working in training and education for not-for-profit organisations in WA and corporate companies in the UK, Louise believes learning should always be fun and memorable.

Louise enjoys facilitating through a variety of platforms and engaging with people from all walks of life and is a true believer in what we learn, becomes a part of who we are. The "Aha" moment in learning and unlocking an individual's possibilities is priceless.

Louise was a P&C President for three years and understands the challenges P&C's face, especially engaging and retention and recruitment of parents.



Workshop 8: Incident Management at Schools: How P&Cs Can Help Communities Impacted by Significant Events

Presenter: Sally Blackmore, Department of Education

When a school community is impacted by a significant incident there is a need to maximise the natural supportive mechanisms of care and connection. This is core work for P&Cs and where they can have a positive support role in incident response.

Key incident management frameworks, principles and interventions will be presented to support participants in working with school leadership to respond to critical incidents.

P&Cs are key contributors in supporting schools provide an environment for all children to be engaged and feel safe. While the school routine runs smoothly most of the time, all school communities will experience incidents which cause disruption and have the potential to threaten the safety of its members. In preparation for this schools have incident management procedures and school leaders have accessed training to enable them to respond to a wide range of critical incidents. The purpose of incident management is to minimise disruption and have schools functioning as normally as possible, as quickly as possible.

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Conference Entertainment

Mount Pleasant Primary School Choir

The Mount Primary School Choir are proud to represent their school at today's special event. Our choir ranges from years 3-6, and we rehearse together most Monday mornings. The MPPS Choir have performed several times as part of the Massed Choir Festival, at the Perth Concert Hall. The students also regularly perform at school Assemblies, special occasions, and last year we started the tradition of an annual end-of-year school Arts Showcase, where the Art, Language and Music students are able to showcase their talent and hard work, with the support of friends and family. We are a happy, enthusiastic group of young singers, who love coming together to share our love for music and singing.



John Forrest Senior High School Jazz Band

John Forrest College has a rich history of music. The program began in 1966 and offers music to students both at the College and in the local area primary schools. The College music program comprises of a variety of music ensembles including: concert bands, jazz bands, classical guitar ensembles, choirs, and a contemporary ensemble. The students perform throughout the year at the various school events and external events such as the Arts Showcase, Music Festivals, College Concerts, and other Community Events. Many students in the John Forrest Secondary College Specialist Music Program have chosen careers in music or music production and have been accepted into tertiary institutions. This evening we will showcase the College's Swing Band and Certificate Music ensemble. These young talented musicians range from students in Years 9-12.



Indigo Ellis

Indigo Ellis is a 17-year-old Noongar Nunga girl growing up on Noongar Boodjar here in Perth. From the age of 7, she embarked on a journey of singing and performing that has captivated audiences throughout Perth. Indigo has numerous accolades to her name, including, 2 NAIDOC music awards and 2 WA Music (WAM) awards for her original composition titled "Home", a song she wrote at the age of 13. Beyond her musical achievements, Indigo is an Ambassador for the Valuing Children Initiative, actively raising awareness about Indigenous mental health and lending her voice to support the Aboriginal and LGBTQI+ communities, particularly the younger generation. Indigo Ellis is a shining star and her unwavering passion, talent, and dedication are certain to propel her towards a bright and successful future.



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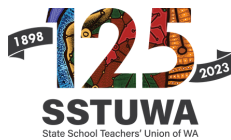
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