

# Media Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Independent Schools  
Council of Australia

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## New chairman for independent schools peak body

The Board of the Independent Schools Council of Australia has elected Dr Ken Evans as its new Chairman.

Dr Evans is Vice President of the Association of Independent Schools of Western Australia and a member of the Anglican Schools Commission of Western Australia. He has been Chairman of the Council of John Septimus Roe Anglican Community School in Mirrabooka, Western Australia since 1995.

John Septimus Roe Anglican Community School is a low-fee, K-12 co-educational day school established by the Anglican Schools Commission of Western Australian in 1992. It now has 1900 students across two campuses.

Dr Evans has worked in private industry and in state and local government. He was Western Australian Electoral Commissioner from 1997 to 2002. Dr Evans has also held senior positions in the Western Australian Education Department and the Secondary Education Authority of WA (now the Curriculum Council). He is a Fellow of the Australian Council for Education Leaders.

Dr Evans said he is pleased to be representing independent schools at a national level.

‘The independent sector encompasses a wonderful diversity of school communities,’ said Dr Evans. ‘There are 468,000 students in 1060 independent schools in Australia – schools that reflect the diverse religious and ethnic traditions in Australian society as well as a range of educational philosophies. There are the large metropolitan schools and the small indigenous community schools in remote regions, there are special schools for students with disabilities, day schools and boarding schools, co-educational schools and single-sex schools. What all of these schools have in common is their commitment to providing their students with a quality education. Helping schools achieve this will be a special focus for me over the term of my chairmanship.’

Dr Evans said a particular challenge facing the independent sector is meeting the needs of students with disabilities. ‘We will be making a strong case to government that students with disabilities should have full access to government funding and services no matter which school they attend,’ he said.

ISCA’s retiring Chairman, Mr Chris Tudor, Headmaster of St Philip’s College in Alice Springs, said Dr Evans’ experience in nurturing and growing school communities and his commitment to education in general and independent schooling in particular made him an excellent representative for the sector.

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*A colour photograph of Dr Evans is available as jpeg, tiff and gif files.*