

19 December 2014

MEDIA RELEASE

NATIONAL REPORT ON SCHOOLING IN AUSTRALIA 2012 RELEASED

The Chair of the Education Council, ACT Minister for Education Ms Joy Burch MLA, today released the *National Report on Schooling in Australia 2012*, the comprehensive annual report on the nation's school education sector.

Developed on behalf of state, territory and federal education ministers by the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA), the report compiles information on Australia's 9,427 schools, 3.59 million school students and 258,986 teachers for the 2012 calendar year.

It reports on nationally agreed key performance measures for schooling, including enrolment, attendance, student achievement in national assessments and transitions to further education and work.

The report also reviews progress in 2012 towards the Educational Goals for Young Australians agreed by Australian education ministers in the Melbourne Declaration of 2008 and on Council of Australian Governments (COAG) initiatives for school education. Achievements in the development of the Australian Curriculum, in enhancing quality teaching and school leadership, in pursuing greater equity, in school reporting through the *My School* website, and in the National Assessment Program are summarised.

"This report is an important document that summarises the performance of school education in Australia and provides a reference point for monitoring how we are progressing towards key national goals," Minister Burch said.

The report is available via the ACARA website (www.acara.edu.au). Two further chapters, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education and Funding Australia's Schools, will be published in due course.

Media Contact: Greg Donaghue, Education Council secretariat on (03) 9639 0588 or greg.donaghue@ec.edu.au