



Boarding Standard for Australian schools and residences



This Australian Standard® was prepared by Committee ED-001, Boarding Facilities and Services Management. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 8 July 2015.

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The following are represented on Committee ED-001:

- Anglican Schools Australia
 - Association of Heads of Independent Schools of Australia
 - Australian Boarding School Association
 - Australian Catholic University
 - Australian Parents Council
 - Australian Primary Principals Association
 - Australian Secondary Principals Association
 - Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards, NSW
 - Boarding Australia
 - Department of Education and Communities, NSW
 - Education and Early Childhood Services Registration and Standards Board of South Australia
 - Isolated Children's Parents' Association
 - Lutheran Education Queensland
 - National Catholic Education Commission
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Standards Australia wishes to acknowledge the participation of the expert individuals that contributed to the development of this Standard through their representation on the Committee and through the public comment period.

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Australian Standard[®]

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PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee ED-001, Education Facilities and Services Management.

The objective of this Standard is to provide owners, operators, managers and staff of boarding services with a framework of required topics that need to be addressed in order to deliver a safe, healthy and productive environment for boarders.

This Standard covers functional elements commonly found across boarding services and addresses them under relevant sections. The chart on the following page illustrates the structure of the document.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Desirable quality assurance has underpinned the development of standards for boarding services in a number of countries. That work, and previous work in Australia in this regard, helped inform the development of this Boarding Standard.

- Child protection of boarders
- Safety of boarders
- Health and well-being of boarders
- Holistic development of boarders
- Care and supervision of boarders
- Providing for boarders with particular needs

- Management of the boarding service
- Records management

- Scope
- Application
- Referenced documents
- Definitions

GOVERNANCE & MANAGEMENT

**3
BOARDERS**

**4
STAFF**

- Health, safety and wellbeing of staff
- Competence and professional learning of staff
- Management of staff

**5
PARENT, FAMILY & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

- Parent and family engagement
- Community engagement

**6
FACILITIES**

- Development and management of the facilities

BOARDING STANDARD

CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
INTRODUCTION	5
 SECTION 1 SCOPE AND GENERAL	
1.1 SCOPE.....	6
1.2 APPLICATION	6
1.3 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS.....	6
1.4 DEFINITIONS.....	6
 SECTION 2 GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT	
2.1 GENERAL.....	8
2.2 RECORDS MANAGEMENT	8
2.3 FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT	9
 SECTION 3 BOARDERS	
3.1 GENERAL.....	10
3.2 CHILD PROTECTION OF BOARDERS	10
3.3 SAFETY OF BOARDERS	10
3.4 HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF BOARDERS	10
3.5 HOLISTIC DEVELOPMENT OF BOARDERS	12
3.6 CARE AND SUPERVISION OF BOARDERS	12
3.7 PROVIDING FOR BOARDERS WITH PARTICULAR NEEDS	13
 SECTION 4 STAFF	
4.1 GENERAL.....	14
4.2 HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELLBEING OF STAFF	14
4.3 COMPETENCE AND PROFESSIONAL LEARNING OF STAFF	14
4.4 MANAGEMENT OF STAFF	15
 SECTION 5 PARENT, FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT	
5.1 GENERAL.....	16
5.2 PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT.....	16
5.3 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT.....	16
 SECTION 6 FACILITIES	
	17

INTRODUCTION

This Standard is designed for application in boarding services operated by Australian state and territory government agencies, by non-government schools and systems and by local government and community committees. This Standard is designed to promote and safeguard the welfare of students for whom boarding accommodation is provided.

Legislative requirements affecting boarding services in Australia vary from state to state and between states and territories. This Standard provides a common framework across all jurisdictions and is intended to be of benefit to service providers and users.

Experience in other countries suggests that a national boarding standard is effective in promoting quality boarding services.

Many sections of this Standard may align with policies and procedures that already exist and are documented.

STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

Australian Standard

Boarding Standard for Australian schools and residences

SECTION 1 SCOPE AND GENERAL

1.1 SCOPE

This Standard specifies requirements for the management and operation of residential boarding services for students attending school, including residential boarding services governed by the school or independently.

1.2 APPLICATION

Boarding service management shall be able to demonstrate compliance with relevant federal, state and territory legislation. Suitable frameworks and processes shall be established, documented, disseminated, implemented, maintained and reviewed. The Sections of this Standard set out minimum requirements for a framework and processes as follows:

Section 2—Governance and management.

Section 3—Boarders.

Section 4—Staff.

Section 5—Parent, family and community engagement.

Section 6—Facilities.

1.3 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS

The following document is referred to in this Standard:

AS/NZS ISO

31000 Risk management—Principles and guidelines

1.4 DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this Standard the definitions below apply.

1.4.1 Boarder

A school student who utilizes the boarding service. Includes school students from Australian rural, remote and urban locations and from overseas.

1.4.2 Boarding service

An accommodation service for Australian and international students attending school. This includes all aspects of student care and development and the boarding premises.

1.4.3 Boarding service management

The day-to-day implementation of the strategic direction and operation of the boarding service.

1.4.4 Boarding staff

Persons undertaking a variety of duties in the delivery of the boarding service.