

HUMAN RIGHTS IN EDUCATION POLICY

The Professional Teachers Council NSW affirms the principles proclaimed in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Declaration of the Rights of the Child, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Australian Anti Discrimination Act 1975 and the NSW Anti Discrimination Act 1977.

PRINCIPLES

All people have the right to:

- ▶ live in dignity under the rule of law
- ▶ participate fully in society
- ▶ an education without distinction or discrimination on account of race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status, whether of him/herself or his/her family.

The child is entitled to and has the right to:

- ▶ an education that is free, compulsory and of the highest standard
- ▶ develop his/her full potential through education without distinction or discrimination
- ▶ the opportunity to complete his/her schooling
- ▶ learn in a safe and appropriate environment that is adequately resourced
- ▶ be taught by qualified and competent teachers

It is the responsibility of governments to:

- ▶ provide free, compulsory secular education for all children
- ▶ provide access to free post-compulsory school education for all young people
- ▶ ensure teacher training of the highest quality
- ▶ guarantee the standard of education in all educational institutions

These principles cover education at all levels:

- ▶ Preschool education
- ▶ Compulsory years of schooling
- ▶ Post-compulsory years of schooling
- ▶ Post-secondary education
- ▶ Tertiary education

OUTCOMES

All children and young people will receive an education that:

- ▶ enables them to reach their full potential
- ▶ is provided in a safe environment
- ▶ is provided through a range of learning models
- ▶ is provided by qualified and trained teachers
- ▶ is provided in well resourced schools
- ▶ is funded by governments
- ▶ prepares them for full participation in civic life

ALL TEACHERS WILL:

- ▶ be appropriately trained and qualified
- ▶ practice sound pedagogy that is relevant to student learning
- ▶ be ethical in their practice
- ▶ be committed to their own professional development and that of colleagues
- ▶ be confident to teach in a safe and supportive learning environment
- ▶ enlist respect for teaching as a profession
- ▶ contribute to the status of teaching as a profession

CONTACT INFORMATION

The Professional Teachers Council NSW welcomes your comments regarding this Human Rights in Education Statement. If you believe that we have not adhered to this Statement, please contact us.