



Wednesday 9 December, 2020

ABODA NSW
12 Fourth Ave
Lane Cove NSW
2066

The Honourable Sarah Mitchell MLC
Minster for Education and Early Childhood Learning

I am writing in regards to the recent changes to professional development accreditation as a result of the new Accreditation of Professional Development Courses Policy.

The role of a music teacher is multifaceted; with staff teaching classroom music across a variety of stages, conducting ensembles, staging musicals and leading tours. As such, regular professional development in these areas is essential to ensure that all teachers are supported in providing students with a quality music education, irrespective of their socioeconomic background or geographic location.

ABODA NSW, with the assistance of the PTC, has striven to provide high quality professional development for music teachers who direct ensembles as component of their teaching. Our professional development in recent years has included:

- Conducting courses providing direct instruction in the art of ensemble direction
- Workshops on the establishment of ensemble programs
- Workshops on how to teach & support students playing specific musical instruments
- Repertoire sessions providing resources on the best music for bands of all ages & abilities, with particular focus on Australian repertoire
- Workshops to support teachers with online music instruction, looking at specific music software

In addition, many of these courses were provided online to ensure that teachers across the state had access.

All the courses mentioned above were created by a volunteer committee consisting of classroom teachers, ensemble directors & musicians. In addition, the presenters have been current music teachers working in NSW public & private schools.



The Professional Teachers Council of NSW (PTC NSW) has ensured that each accredited course meets the highest standards, with feedback provided on all applications, and requests for changes when applications were deemed to have shortcomings. It is our firm belief that PTC NSW should be considered an Authorised Provider based on their long history of ensuring all professional development meets accreditation requirements, particularly across the priority areas as outlined in the new policy for accreditation.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me. I would appreciate the opportunity to speak to yourself or one of your staff.

Yours Sincerely

David Gresham
President ABODA NSW