

Independent Education Union

Unit 10, 40 Brisbane Avenue
BARTON ACT 2600
PO Box 177
DEAKIN WEST ACT 2600



Telephone: (02) 6273 3107
Fax: (02) 6273 3710
Website: <http://www.ieu.org.au>

31 March 2020

The Hon Dan Tehan MP
Member for Wannon
Minister Education

By email

Dear Minister

Whilst the IEUA has welcomed the provision of a wage subsidy, the JobKeeper allowance, there are several issues that impact on our members that the wage subsidy in its current form does not address.

The IEUA does not wish to see the school funding debate be inflamed at this time, but nevertheless, it is because of the current funding arrangements that will mean many of our members risk being stood-down or receive no income at all in the coming time because the 30% threshold of loss of revenue will not be able to be demonstrated.

IEUA members working in support roles in schools have already been warned by employers that their jobs are at risk. The IEUA believes that there is a responsibility for employers to maintain their staff in the current climate and in particular, schools and systems in receipt of high levels of per student funding. However, the IEUA believes that there is a need for consideration of the wide diversity of schools and their communities to establish appropriate variation mechanisms to ensure workers in all schools can be retained and supported.

In relation to casual relief teachers, the IEUA believes that there are innovative models of recognition of prior service with an employer that can be developed in consultation with the IEUA that could form part of the basis of a package of response to the sector.

It is clear that casual relief teachers in schools currently have a poor outcome under the current JobKeeper model and many are facing zero income in the coming period.

The IEUA would welcome an opportunity to discuss these issues with you at your earliest convenience.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris Watt', is enclosed within a thin black rectangular border. The signature is stylized and cursive.

CHRIS WATT
Federal Secretary

Cc Jacinta Collins NCEC David Mulford ISCA