Recipient Details
Name of organisation or individual: [O] Bendigo Education Council
Reference Type: Education association
State or territory: Vic
Serial Identification Number: 478536

Responses
Curriculum and assessment
Please note general comments at end of submission
Rating: 5

Teachers and teaching
See general comments at end of submission
Rating: 7

Leaders and leadership
See comments at end of submission
Rating: 7

School and Community
See comments at end of submission
Rating: 6

Information and Communication Technology
See comments at end of submission
Rating: 6

Entrepreneurship and schools
Rating: 6

Improving access – enrolments, clusters, distance education and boarding
Rating for enrolments: 5
Rating for clusters: 6
Rating for distance education: 5
Rating for boarding: 3

Diversity
Rating: 6

Transitioning beyond school
Rating: 7
Additional Comments
The Bendigo Education Council was established in 2015. Membership includes the Principals of all secondary and special education providers, representative Principals from the primary schools and leaders in Tertiary and Vocational Education. It also has indigenous education representation through BDAC and include early childhood representatives. It is across all sectors and levels of Education in the City of Greater Bendigo. The Bendigo Education Council’s vision is to: Raise the aspiration, achievement and participation of all young people in the City of Greater Bendigo to help them become more active participants in our community. It aims to: Directly influence generational change through education. It commits to:

1. Lead the conversation around education in Bendigo
2. Have proactive involvement in defining what it means for Bendigo to be an Education City
3. Explore the challenges in our community and how education can respond
4. Promote the cultural strengths of education in our city.

The Bendigo Education Council meets monthly and is a place for real cross sectoral dialogue.

As a unified voice and ear in relation to Education for young people across the city of Greater Bendigo, and with influence across a much broader regional and rural area, it has met with various community and industry representatives. These include Bendigo Health, Bendigo Community Health, City of Greater Bendigo, Refugee Council, Bendigo & Adelaide Bank, Bendigo Business Council, Bendigo Aboriginal Council, Bendigo Technical School Committee, various Industry Representatives.

The Bendigo Education Council believes it has developed a unique, but reproducible model of effective representation and communication across the various sectors of Education. The Council strongly believes it can provide valuable contributions to the current review in three significant areas:

1. A unified (and diverse) view on the issues raised in the review in relation to regional and rural issues. We request a meeting during the consultation phase
2. Learnings from a range of relevant success stories
3. A place where recommendations from the review could be trialed effectively.

The Bendigo Education Council has established innovations which have brought partnership together to assist in improving student achievements and outcomes. The voice on the Council represents Early childhood to University and provides connected and co-ordinated pathways for students through this educational journey. It is seeking to develop a long term vision that links industry and education in real and sustainable ways.

The Bendigo Education Council requests the opportunity to be involved in the stakeholder consultations. We believe we have much to offer in this vital conversation across all areas of section 6 of the discussion paper.

Darren McGregor
Principal Marist College Bendigo
Chair of Bendigo Education Council