Explanatory note
This explanatory note relates to this Bill as introduced into Parliament.

Overview of Bill
The objects of this Bill are as follows:
(a) to rename and reconstitute the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards as the NSW Education Standards Authority (the Authority),
(b) to provide for the Authority to have a governing Board comprising an independent Chairperson and up to 12 other members appointed by the Minister, along with a Chief Executive Officer who will be responsible for the day to day management of the activities of the Authority,
(c) to require the Authority to have a charter (prepared by the Board of the Authority and approved by the Minister) outlining its key responsibilities and objectives and to provide that the Minister may, in an annual Statement of Expectations, determine priorities in relation to the Authority’s functions,
(d) to ensure that the functions of the Authority may be delegated to committees of the Board (which will include the Quality Teaching Committee established under the Teacher Accreditation Act 2004),
(e) to authorise the Authority, in addition to its other functions under the education and teaching legislation, to conduct reviews into matters arising under that legislation,
(f) to enable the Authority’s inspectors to conduct audits and carry out inspections on education premises (which will include premises that are used to provide professional development in accordance with the professional teaching standards under the Teacher Accreditation Act 2004 and the premises of teacher accreditation authorities under that Act).
and to provide that the powers of an inspector may be exercised in relation to education premises without any requirement to give notice,

(g) to ensure that the Authority is informed of the establishment, change of name or closure of government schools,

(h) to provide that the Authority is to monitor, and provide advice to the Minister and the Secretary of the Department of Education on, the compliance by government schools with similar requirements to those applying to non-government schools under section 47 of the Education Act 1990 and to enable the Authority to recommend the taking of action in relation to any non-compliance with those requirements,

(i) to modify the registration requirements for non-government schools, including a new requirement that the school must be financially viable,

(j) to ensure that matters relating to the quality of student learning are taken into consideration in determining whether the registration requirements will be or are being complied with at or in relation to a school,

(k) to enable the Minister to impose conditions of registration in relation to non-government schools and to provide that the registration of a school may be revoked if such conditions are not complied with,

(l) to abolish the Quality Teaching Council and to re-establish it as a committee of the Board of the Authority to be known as the Quality Teaching Committee,

(m) to authorise the Authority (rather than the Minister) to approve of teacher education courses and programs in connection with the accreditation of teachers and to approve persons or bodies to provide professional development in accordance with the requirements of the professional teaching standards,

(n) to provide that the Authority (but not any other teacher accreditation authority) may suspend or revoke a person’s accreditation as a teacher,

(o) to require employers of teachers and teacher accreditation authorities to notify the Authority of information that may be relevant to the grounds on which a teacher’s accreditation may be suspended or revoked,

(p) to establish a new Public Service staff agency comprising those persons who are employed under the Government Sector Employment Act 2013 to enable the Authority to exercise its functions and to provide for the Chief Executive Officer of the Authority to be the head of that staff agency,

(q) to make a number of other amendments to the education and teaching legislation that are of an administrative, minor or consequential nature.

Outline of provisions

Clause 1 sets out the name (also called the short title) of the proposed Act.

Clause 2 provides for the commencement of the proposed Act on a day or days to be appointed by proclamation.

Schedule 1 Amendment of Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards Act 2103 No 89

Schedule 1 [1], [2], [4] and [10] are consequential on the renaming of the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards as the NSW Education Standards Authority and on other amendments made by Schedule 1 relating to the reconstitution and new management structure of the Authority.

Schedule 1 [6] substitutes Part 2 of the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards Act 2013 (which will be renamed by Schedule 1 [3] as the Education Standards Authority Act 2013) so as to constitute the Authority (as a continuation of the Board of Studies, Teaching and
Educational Standards) and to provide a new management structure for the Authority. The Authority will have a governing Board comprising an independent Chairperson and up to 12 other members appointed by the Minister, along with a Chief Executive Officer who will be responsible for the day to day management of the activities of the Authority. The staff of the Authority (including the Chief Executive Officer) will be employed under the Government Sector Employment Act 2013.

The new Part 2 also requires the Authority to have a charter (prepared by the Board of the Authority and approved by the Minister) outlining its key responsibilities and objectives in addition to those specified in the Part. Provision is included for the Minister, in an annual Statement of Expectations, to determine priorities in relation to the Authority’s functions. The Authority will be authorised to conduct reviews into any matter arising under the education and teaching legislation. Part 2 also ensures that the functions of the Authority may be delegated to committees of the Board (which will include the Quality Teaching Committee established under the Teacher Accreditation Act 2004).

Schedule 1 [5] and [20] remove provisions relating to the office of President of Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards as that office will be abolished as a consequence of the reconstitution of that former body as the Authority. Schedule 1 [21] provides that the existing President will be the Chairperson of the Board of the Authority.

Schedule 1 [7] enables the Authority’s inspectors to conduct audits and carry out inspections on education premises. Schedule 1 [9] extends the meaning of education premises to include, in addition to schools and early childhood education centres, premises that are used to provide professional development in accordance with the professional teaching standards under the Teacher Accreditation Act 2004 and the premises of teacher accreditation authorities under that Act.

Schedule 1 [8] provides that the powers of an inspector in relation to education premises may be exercised without any requirement to give notice.

Schedule 1 [11] updates a reference to the Quality Teaching Council to the Quality Teaching Committee established by Schedule 3 [10].


Schedule 1 [13] extends the agencies with which the Authority may enter into an information sharing arrangement with so as to include any Public Service agency.

Schedule 1 [14] modifies the manner in which documents under the education and teaching legislation may be served.

Schedule 1 [15] modifies the provision relating to the issuing of penalty notices for offences under the education and teaching legislation.

Schedule 1 [16] and [17] extend the matters for which the Authority may make rules to matters under the education and teaching legislation for which rules may be made and to matters relating to the conduct of proceedings of committees of the Board of the Authority.

Schedule 1 [18] enables the Minister to delegate functions under the Act.

Schedule 1 [19] inserts provisions relating to the members and procedure of the Board of the Authority that are consistent with the standard provisions relating to boards of statutory corporations.

Schedule 2  Amendment of Education Act 1990 No 8

Schedule 2 [1], [2], [4] and [5] are consequential on the amendments made by Schedule 1 to rename the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards as the NSW Education Standards Authority.


Schedule 2 [6] and [8] provide that the Department informs the Authority of the establishment, change of name or closure of government schools.

Schedule 2 [7] provides that the Authority is to monitor, and provide advice to the Minister and the Secretary of the Department on, the compliance by government schools with similar requirements to those applying to non-government schools and to enable the Authority to recommend the taking of action in relation to any non-compliance with those requirements.

Schedule 2 [9] provides that the financial viability of a non-government school will be a requirement for registration.

Schedule 2 [10] replaces the requirement that each responsible person for a non-government school must be of good character with the requirement that such persons be fit and proper persons.

Schedule 2 [11] ensures that matters relating to the quality of student learning are taken into consideration in determining whether the registration requirements will be or are being complied with at or in relation to a school.

Schedule 2 [12] and [16] enable the Authority to request further information in relation to an application for registration of a non-government school or for the renewal of such registration.

Schedule 2 [13] enables the Minister to impose conditions of registration in relation to non-government schools and Schedule 2 [14], [15], [17] and [18] make provision for the revocation of the registration of a school (or for the reduction of the period of registration) if such conditions are not complied with.

Schedule 2 [19] provides that returns by non-government schools on the registration requirements relating to the school may be required to be certified by the person or body providing the return.

Schedule 2 [21] contains savings and transitional provisions consequent on the amendments made by Schedule 2 [9]–[18].

Schedule 3  Amendment of Teacher Accreditation Act 2004 No 65

Schedule 3 [1], [2], [4], [5] and [7] are consequential on the amendments made by Schedule 1 to rename the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards as the NSW Education Standards Authority and on the abolition of the office of President of the former body.


Schedule 3 [10] abolishes the Quality Teaching Council and re-establishes it (with new members) as a committee of the Board of the Authority to be known as the Quality Teaching Committee (the QTC). Schedule 3 [3], [11], [27] and [29]–[38] are consequential amendments.

Schedule 3 [13] provides that the Authority (rather than the Minister) may approve teacher education courses and programs in connection with the accreditation of teachers and approve persons or bodies to provide professional development in accordance with the requirements of the professional teaching standards. Schedule 3 [8], [9] and [28] are consequential amendments.
Schedule 3 [17] provides that only the Authority (and not any other teacher accreditation authority) may suspend or revoke a person’s accreditation as a teacher. Schedule 3 [12], [15], [16], [18]–[21], [23] and [24] are consequential amendments and Schedule 3 [14] ensures that any procedures or guidelines under the professional teaching standards in relation to the revocation or suspension by the Authority of a person’s accreditation as a teacher must be consistent with the rules of procedural fairness.

Schedule 3 [22] makes it clear that a person may surrender the person’s accreditation as a teacher.

Schedule 3 [25] requires employers of teachers and teacher accreditation authorities to notify the Authority of information that may be relevant to the grounds on which a teacher’s accreditation may be suspended or revoked.

Schedule 3 [39] contains savings and transitional provisions consequent on certain of the proposed amendments made by Schedule 3.

Schedule 4  Amendment of other legislation

Schedule 4.1 amends the Government Information (Public Access) Regulation 2009 as a consequence of the amendment made by Schedule 4.2.

Schedule 4.2 amends the Government Sector Employment Act 2013 to update the name of the Public Service staff agency in which persons will be employed under that Act to enable the Authority to exercise its functions. The head of the staff agency will be the Chief Executive Officer of the Authority who will exercise employer functions in relation to the persons employed in the staff agency. The Minister will exercise employer functions in relation to the Chief Executive Officer.

Schedule 4.3 amends the Public Finance and Audit Act 1983 to ensure that the Authority is subject to the usual financial and annual reporting requirements that apply to statutory corporations.
# Education and Teaching Legislation Amendment Bill 2016

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Education and Teaching Legislation Amendment Bill 2016

No  , 2016

A Bill for

An Act to amend the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards Act 2013, the Education Act 1990 and the Teacher Accreditation Act 2004 with respect to the constitution and functions of the NSW Education Standards Authority; to make further provision with respect to the registration of non-government schools and the accreditation of teachers; and for other purposes.
The Legislature of New South Wales enacts:

1 Name of Act
   This Act is the Education and Teaching Legislation Amendment Act 2016.

2 Commencement
   This Act commences on a day or days to be appointed by proclamation.
Schedule 1  Amendment of Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards Act 2013 No 89

[1] The whole Act (except section 18 (a), Schedule 2 and where otherwise amended by this Schedule)
Omit “Board” and “Board’s” wherever occurring.
Insert instead “Authority” and “Authority’s”, respectively.

[2] Long title
Omit “Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards”.
Insert instead “NSW Education Standards Authority”.

[3] Section 1 Name of Act
Omit “Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards”.
Insert instead “Education Standards Authority”.

[4] Section 3 Definitions
Omit the definition of Board from section 3 (1). Insert in alphabetical order:
appoint member means a member of the Board other than the Chief Executive Officer.
Authority means the NSW Education Standards Authority constituted under this Act.
Board means (except in Schedule 2) the Board of the NSW Education Standards Authority established under this Act.
Chairperson means the Chairperson of the Board.
Chief Executive Officer means the Chief Executive Officer of the Authority.
committee of the Board means:
(a) a committee established by the Board under section 12C (1), or
(b) the Quality Teaching Committee established under the Teacher Accreditation Act 2004.

[5] Section 3 (1), definition of “President”
Omit the definition.

[6] Part 2
Omit the Part. Insert instead:

Part 2 NSW Education Standards Authority

Division 1 Constitution and management of Authority

4 Constitution of NSW Education Standards Authority

(1) There is constituted by this Act a body corporate with the corporate name of the NSW Education Standards Authority.

(2) The Authority is, for the purposes of any Act, a NSW Government agency.

5 Role of Minister

The Authority is subject to the control and direction of the Minister in the exercise of its functions, except in relation to:

(a) the contents of any advice, report or recommendation it makes to the Minister or any other person or body, or

(b) its functions under Part 8 of the Education Act 1990.

6 Board of the Authority

(1) There is to be a Board of the NSW Education Standards Authority.

(2) The Board is to consist of the following members:

(a) an independent person appointed by the Minister as the Chairperson of the Board,

(b) 6 persons appointed by the Minister as follows:

(i) 1 from the government school sector, 1 from the Catholic school sector and 1 from the independent school sector,

(ii) 2 from teacher unions,

(iii) 1 from Aboriginal education,

(c) no less than 4 (but not more than 6) other persons appointed by the Minister with regard to teachers and school leaders, universities, vocational education and training, parents of school children, early childhood education, special education, business acumen and strategic advisory skills,

(d) the Chief Executive Officer.

(3) The appointed members are to be persons who, in the opinion of the Minister, together have skills and experience that will assist the Authority in exercising its functions.

(4) Each member of the Board is to exercise his or her functions as a member in a manner that promotes the objectives of the Authority and the interests of students.

(5) Of the appointed members other than the Chairperson, one is to be appointed as Deputy Chairperson of the Board in or by the instrument of appointment as a member or in or by some other instrument executed by the Minister.

(6) An appointed member cannot nominate another person to act on the behalf of the member.

Note. See clause 3 of Schedule 1 which provides for the appointment by the Minister of alternate members in certain circumstances.

(7) Schedule 1 contains provisions relating to the members and procedure of the Board.

7 Role of Board

(1) The Board has the following functions:

(a) to determine the general policies and strategic direction of the Authority,

(b) to oversee the functions of the Authority (including its financial responsibilities),

(c) to give advice to the Minister on matters relating to the functions of the Authority (including advice on school education standards),
(d) such other functions as are conferred or imposed on it by or under this or any other Act or law.

(2) Any decision relating to the functions of the Authority is to be made by or under the authority of the Board.

(3) Any act, matter or thing done in the name of, or on behalf of, the Authority by or under the authority of the Board is taken to have been done by the Authority.

8 Chief Executive Officer

(1) The Chief Executive Officer of the Authority is the person who, having regard to any advice of the Chairperson, is employed in the Public Service as the Chief Executive Officer of the Authority.

(2) The Chief Executive Officer is responsible for the day to day management of the activities of the Authority.

(3) The Chief Executive Officer is, on the request of the Minister or on the Chief Executive Officer’s own initiative, to report to the Minister on matters relating to the activities of the Authority.

9 Staff of Authority

Persons may be employed in the Public Service to enable the Authority to exercise its functions.

Note. Section 59 of the Government Sector Employment Act 2013 provides that the persons so employed (or whose services the Authority makes use of) may be referred to as officers or employees, or members of staff, of the Authority. Section 47A of the Constitution Act 1902 precludes the Authority from employing staff.

Division 2 Objectives and functions of Authority

10 Charter and annual Statement of Expectations

(1) The Authority is to have a charter, prepared by the Board and approved by the Minister, outlining its key responsibilities and objectives.

(2) The Minister may, in a Statement of Expectations issued annually to the Authority, determine priorities in relation to the exercise by the Authority of its functions.

(3) This section does not affect the operation of the Annual Reports (Statutory Bodies) Act 1984.

11 Principal objectives of Authority

(1) The principal objectives of the Authority are as follows:

(a) to provide strategic leadership in improving standards of school education,

(b) to promote an evidence-based approach in improving standards of school education,

(c) to ensure that each of the following matters under the education and teaching legislation is developed, applied and monitored in a way that improves student learning while maintaining flexibility across the entire school education and teaching sector:

(i) the school curriculum,

(ii) forms of assessment,

(iii) regulatory standards for schools,

(iv) teaching quality and professional standards.
(2) This section does not limit any of the other objectives of the Authority outlined in its charter.

12 Functions of Authority

(1) The Authority has the functions conferred or imposed on it by or under:
(a) the education and teaching legislation, or
(b) any other legislation.

(2) In particular, the Authority has functions under the education and teaching legislation in relation to the following:
(a) the school curriculum for primary and secondary school children,
(b) the approval of initial and continuing teacher education courses and programs that are relevant to the accreditation of persons under the Teacher Accreditation Act 2004,
(c) the accreditation of teachers and the monitoring of the accreditation process across all schools and early childhood education centres under that Act,
(d) basic skills testing,
(e) the granting of Records of School Achievement and Higher School Certificates,
(f) the registration and accreditation of schools,
(g) the approval of providers of courses at schools to overseas students,
(h) the development, content and application of professional teaching standards,
(i) reporting and advising on matters relating to the Authority’s functions.

12A Conduct of reviews

(1) The Authority may, subject to any direction by the Minister, conduct a review into any matter arising under the education and teaching legislation.

(2) For the purposes of conducting any such review, the Authority may request a person or body to provide such information as the Authority reasonably requires.

12B Delegation of functions

(1) The Authority may delegate to an authorised person or body any of its functions under the education and teaching legislation, other than this power of delegation.

(2) In this section:

authorised person or body means any of the following:
(a) an appointed member,
(b) the Chief Executive Officer,
(c) a member of staff of the Authority,
(d) a committee of the Board or subcommittee of a committee,
(e) a member of any such committee or subcommittee,
(f) a person or body, or a person or body of a class, prescribed by the regulations.
12C Committees of the Board

(1) The Board may, with the approval of the Minister, establish committees:

(a) to give advice or assistance to the Board in connection with any particular matter or function of the Board, or

(b) for the purposes of enabling the functions of the Authority to be delegated to any such committee.

Note. In addition to any committee established under this section, the Quality Teaching Committee is established under the Teacher Accreditation Act 2004 as a committee of the Board.

(2) The Board is not to appoint a person as a member of a committee established under subsection (1) unless the Board is of the opinion that the person has appropriate expertise to make a valuable contribution to the committee. In appointing persons as members of a committee, the Board is to have regard to an appropriate mix of skills, knowledge and experience.

(3) A committee of the Board that is exercising a delegated function of the Authority must, unless the Minister determines otherwise, be chaired by an appointed member. It does not matter that some or all of the other members of the committee are not appointed members of the Board.

(4) A person cannot at any one time be the chairperson of more than 2 committees of the Board.

(5) The procedure for the calling of meetings of a committee of the Board and for the conduct of business at those meetings is to be as determined by the Board or (subject to any determination of the Board) by the committee.

12D Subcommittees

(1) Any committee of the Board may establish subcommittees to assist the committee in connection with the exercise of any of its functions.

(2) A subcommittee of a committee of the Board need not include a member of the committee.

(3) The procedure for the calling of meetings of a subcommittee of a committee of the Board and for the conduct of business at those meetings is to be as determined by the committee or (subject to any determination of the committee) by the subcommittee.

[7] Section 14 Inspection of education premises

Insert the end of section 14 (1) (b):

, and

(c) may conduct such audits and carry out such inspections on those premises as the inspector considers necessary.

[8] Section 14 (2A)

Insert after section 14 (2):

(2A) Any power conferred on an inspector by this section may be exercised on or in relation to education premises without the inspector being required to give notice to any person or body before exercising that power.
[9] **Section 14 (6), definition of “education premises”**

Omit the definition. Insert instead:

\textit{education premises} means any of the following:

(a) any government school or non-government school within the meaning of the \textit{Education Act 1990} (including any proposed non-government school in respect of which an application for registration has been made under that Act),

(b) the premises of an approved provider within the meaning of Part 7A of the \textit{Education Act 1990} (but only to the extent to which the premises are used to carry out activities as such an approved provider),

(c) an early childhood education centre within the meaning of the \textit{Teacher Accreditation Act 2004},

(d) the premises of a person or body approved by the Authority to provide professional development in accordance with the requirements of the professional teaching standards under the \textit{Teacher Accreditation Act 2004} (but only to the extent to which the premises are used to carry out activities as such a provider),

(e) the premises of a person or body approved by the Minister, the Secretary of the Department of Education or the Authority as a teacher accreditation authority under the \textit{Teacher Accreditation Act 2004} (but only to the extent to which the premises are used to carry out activities as such an approved authority).

[10] **Section 15 Education Standards Authority Fund**

Omit “a Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards Fund” from section 15 (1). Insert instead “the Education Standards Authority Fund”.

[11] **Section 15 (2) (b)**

Omit “Council”. Insert instead “Committee”.

[12] **Section 16 Exchange of information**

Omit “section 83H” from section 16 (4). Insert instead “section 83S”.

[13] **Section 16 (5), definition of “relevant agency”**

Omit paragraph (a). Insert instead:

(a) the Department of Education or any other Public Service agency,

[14] **Sections 20 and 21**

Omit the sections. Insert instead:

\textbf{20} Service of documents

(1) A document that is authorised or required by the education and teaching legislation to be served on any person may be served by any of the following methods:

(a) in the case of an individual—by personal delivery to the person,

(b) by post to the address specified by the person for the service of documents of that kind,
(c) in the case of an individual who has not specified such an address—by post to the residential or business address of the person last known to the person serving the document,

(d) in the case of a corporation—by post to the registered office or any other office of the corporation or by leaving it at any such office with a person apparently over the age of 16 years,

(e) by email to an email address specified by the person for the service of documents of that kind,

(f) by any other method authorised by the regulations for the service of documents of that kind.

(2) A document may be served on the Authority by any of the following methods:

(a) by post to the address specified by the Authority for the service of documents of that kind,

(b) by post to an office of the Authority or by leaving it at any such office with a person apparently over the age of 16 years,

(c) by email to an email address specified by the Authority for the service of documents of that kind,

(d) by any other method authorised by the regulations for the service of documents of that kind.

(3) Nothing in this section affects the operation of any provision of a law or of the rules of a court authorising a document to be served on a person or the Authority by any other method.

(4) In this section, serve includes give or send.

[15] Section 23

Omit the section. Insert instead:

23 Penalty notices

(1) A member of staff of the Authority authorised in writing by the Authority may issue a penalty notice to a person if it appears to the member of staff that the person has committed a penalty notice offence.

(2) A penalty notice offence is an offence under the education and teaching legislation that is prescribed by the regulations as a penalty notice offence.

(3) The Fines Act 1996 applies to a penalty notice issued under this section. Note. The Fines Act 1996 provides that, if a person issued with a penalty notice does not wish to have the matter determined by a court, the person may pay the amount specified in the notice and is not liable to any further proceedings for the alleged offence.

(4) The amount payable under a penalty notice issued under this section is the amount prescribed for the alleged offence by the regulations.

(5) This section does not limit the operation of any other provision of, or made under, this or any other Act relating to proceedings that may be taken in respect of offences.

[16] Section 25 Rules of Authority

Insert “or any other matter that is required or permitted to be prescribed under that legislation by the rules” after “its functions” in section 25 (1).
Education and Teaching Legislation Amendment Bill 2016 [NSW]
Schedule 1   Amendment of Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards Act 2013 No 89

[17] Section 25 (2)
Omit the subsection. Insert instead:

(2) Without limiting subsection (1), the rules may:

(a) set out guidelines with respect to the requirements for registration, approval and accreditation under the education and teaching legislation, and

(b) make provision for or with respect to the conduct of proceedings of committees of the Board of the Authority or of subcommittees of such committees.

[18] Section 25A
Insert after section 25:

25A Delegation of Minister’s functions
The Minister may delegate to any person or body any function conferred or imposed on the Minister by or under this Act, other than this power of delegation or the following:

(a) the appointment of members of the Board,

(b) the issuing of a Statement of Expectations under section 10.

[19] Schedule 1
Omit the Schedule. Insert instead:

Schedule 1   Provisions relating to members and procedure of Board

(Section 6 (7))

1 Definition
In this Schedule:

member means any member of the Board.

2 Terms of office of appointed members
(1) Subject to this Schedule, an appointed member holds office for the period (not exceeding 3 years) specified in the instrument of the member’s appointment, but is eligible (if otherwise qualified) for re-appointment.

(2) A person may not be an appointed member for consecutive terms totalling more than 6 years unless the Minister determines otherwise.

3 Alternate members
(1) The Minister may, from time to time, appoint a person to be an alternate member for an appointed member (including the Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson) of the Board.

(2) The provisions of this Schedule, with any necessary modifications, apply to and in respect of alternate members in the same way as they apply to members.

(3) An alternate member may act in the office of the appointed member for whom he or she is the alternate member during the illness or absence of that member (or a vacancy in the office of that member) and, while so acting, has all the functions of that member and is taken to be that member.
4 Remuneration
An appointed member is entitled to be paid such remuneration (including
travelling and subsistence allowances) as the Minister may from time to time
determine in respect of the member.

5 Filling of vacancy in office of appointed member
If the office of any appointed member becomes vacant, a person is, subject to
this Act, to be appointed to fill the vacancy.

6 Casual vacancies
(1) The office of an appointed member becomes vacant if the member:
(a) dies, or
(b) completes a term of office and is not re-appointed, or
(c) resigns the office by instrument in writing addressed to the Minister, or
(d) is removed from office by the Minister under this clause, or
(e) is absent from 3 consecutive meetings of the Board of which reasonable
notice has been given to the member, except on leave granted by the
Board or unless, before the expiration of 4 weeks after the last of those
meetings, the member is excused by the Board for being absent from
those meetings, or
(f) becomes bankrupt, applies to take the benefit of any law for the relief of
bankrupt or insolvent debtors, compounds with his or her creditors or
makes an assignment of his or her remuneration for their benefit, or
(g) becomes a mentally incapacitated person, or
(h) is convicted in New South Wales of an offence that is punishable by
imprisonment for 12 months or more or is convicted elsewhere than in
New South Wales of an offence that, if committed in New South Wales,
would be an offence so punishable.

(2) The Minister may remove an appointed member from office at any time.

7 Disclosure of pecuniary or other interests
(1) If:
(a) a member has, in terms of any guidelines determined by the Board for
the purposes of this clause, a direct or indirect pecuniary interest, or any
other interest, in a matter being considered or about to be considered at
a meeting of the Board, and
(b) the interest appears to raise a conflict with the proper performance of the
member’s duties in relation to the consideration of the matter,
the member must, as soon as possible after the relevant facts have come to the
member’s knowledge, disclose the nature of the interest at a meeting of the
Board.

(2) A disclosure by a member at a meeting of the Board that the member:
(a) is a member, or is in the employment, of a specified company or other
body, or
(b) is a partner, or is in the employment, of a specified person, or
(c) has some other specified interest relating to a specified company or
other body or to a specified person,
is a sufficient disclosure of the nature of the interest in any matter relating to
that company or other body or to that person which may arise after the date of
the disclosure and which is required to be disclosed under subclause (1).

(3) After a member has disclosed the nature of an interest in any matter, the
member must not, unless the Minister otherwise determines:

(a) be present during any deliberation of the Board with respect to the
matter,

(b) take part in any decision of the Board with respect to the matter.

(4) A contravention of this clause does not invalidate any decision of the Board.

8 Effect of certain other Acts

(1) The provisions of the Government Sector Employment Act 2013 relating to
the employment of Public Service employees do not apply to the appointment or
office of an appointed member.

(2) If by or under any other Act provision is made:

(a) requiring a person who is the holder of an office to devote the whole of
his or her time to the duties of that office, or

(b) prohibiting the person from engaging in employment outside the duties
of that office,

that provision does not operate to disqualify the person from holding that
office and also the office of an appointed member or from accepting and
retaining any remuneration payable to the person under this Act as a member.

(3) This clause applies to a member of a committee of the Board in the same way
as it applies to an appointed member.

9 General procedure

The procedure for the calling of meetings of the Board and for the conduct of
business at those meetings is, subject to this Act and the regulations, to be as
determined by the Board.

10 Quorum

The quorum for a meeting of the Board is a majority of the members for the
time being.

11 Presiding member

(1) The Chairperson or, in the absence of the Chairperson, the Deputy
Chairperson (or, in the absence of both, another appointed member elected to
chair the meeting by the members present) is to preside at a meeting of the
Board.

(2) The presiding member at any meeting of the Board has a deliberative vote and,
in the event of an equality of votes, has a second or casting vote.

12 Voting

A decision supported by a majority of the votes cast at a meeting of the Board
at which a quorum is present is the decision of the Board.

13 Minutes

The Board is to cause full and accurate minutes to be kept of the proceedings
of each meeting of the Board.
14 Proof of certain matters not required

In any legal proceedings, proof is not required (until evidence is given to the contrary) of:

(a) the constitution of the Board, or
(b) any resolution of the Board, or
(c) the appointment of, or the holding of office by, any member of the Board, or
(d) the presence of a quorum at any meeting of the Board.

15 First meeting of the Board

The Minister is to call the first meeting of the Board in such manner as the Minister thinks fit.

[20] Schedule 1A Provisions relating to President of the Board

Omit the Schedule.

[21] Schedule 2 Savings, transitional and other provisions

Insert after Part 2:


8 Definition

In this Part:

former body means the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards as constituted under this Act immediately before the substitution of Part 2 of this Act by the Education and Teaching Legislation Amendment Act 2016.

9 Continuation of former body

The NSW Education Standards Authority is a continuation of, and the same legal entity as, the former body.

Note. Section 53 of the Interpretation Act 1987 contains savings provisions in relation to the effect of the reconstitution of the former body under a new name.

10 Continuation of existing Fund

The Education Standards Authority Fund established under section 15 is a continuation of the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards Fund.

11 Members of former body cease to hold office

The persons (other than the President of the former body) who were members of the former body immediately before the commencement of this clause cease to hold office as members and are not entitled to any remuneration or compensation because of the loss of that office.

12 President of former body

The following provisions apply to or in respect of the person who held office as the President of the former body immediately before the commencement of this clause:
(a) the person ceases to hold that office and is not entitled to any remuneration or compensation because of the loss of that office (other than compensation to which the person is entitled as a result of the operation of paragraph (b)),

(b) the person’s employment is taken to have been terminated under section 41 of the Government Sector Employment Act 2013,

(c) the person is taken to have been appointed as the Chairperson of the Board of the Authority,

(d) the person’s appointment as the Chairperson is subject to Schedule 1 to this Act.

13 Transfer of staff employed in existing staff agency

The persons employed under the Government Sector Employment Act 2013 in the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards Staff Agency immediately before the commencement of this clause are transferred to the Education Standards Authority Staff Agency.
Schedule 2   Amendment of Education Act 1990 No 8

[1] The whole Act (except Schedule 3 and where otherwise amended by this Schedule)
Omit “Board” and “Board’s” wherever occurring.
Insert instead “Authority” and “Authority’s”, respectively.

[2] Section 3 Definitions
Omit the definition of Board from section 3 (1). Insert in alphabetical order:
Authority means the NSW Education Standards Authority constituted under
the Education Standards Authority Act 2013.

[3] Section 3 (1), definition of “Department”
Omit “and Communities”.

[4] Section 3 (1), definition of “inspector”
Omit “Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards”.
Insert instead “Education Standards Authority”.

[5] Section 3 (1), definition of “rules of the Board”
Omit the definition. Insert instead:
rules of the Authority means rules made by the Authority under section 25 of
the Education Standards Authority Act 2013.
Note. The rules of the Authority only have effect if approved by the Minister.

[6] Section 27 Establishment of government schools
Omit section 27 (3). Insert instead:
(3) The Department is to inform the Authority of the establishment or change of
name of a government school.

[7] Section 27A
Insert after section 27:
27A Functions of Authority in relation to government schools

(1) The Authority is to monitor, and provide advice to the Minister and the
Secretary on, the compliance by government schools with similar
requirements to those that apply to non-government schools under section 47
(the relevant requirements). In doing so, the Authority may have regard to the
same matters in respect of which the Authority may have regard under that
section in relation to the requirements for registration of non-government
schools.

(2) If the Authority is of the opinion that a government school is not complying
with the relevant requirements, the Authority is to notify the Secretary in
writing of the non-compliance. Any such notice may recommend the taking of
specific action in relation to the school.

(3) The Secretary is, if notified by the Authority that a government school is not
complying with the relevant requirements, to advise the Authority of any
action taken by the Department in dealing with the non-compliance specified
by the Authority in the notice.
(4) In exercising its functions under this section in relation to government schools, the Authority is to be provided by the Department with such assistance as may reasonably be required.

(5) A reference in this section to a government school includes a reference to a group (however described) of government schools or to the whole or any part of the government school system.

[8] Section 28 Closure of government schools
Insert after section 28 (10):

(11) The Department is to inform the Authority of the closure of a government school.

[9] Section 47 Registration requirements for non-government schools
Insert after section 47 (a):

(a1) the school is financially viable,

[10] Section 47 (b)
Omit “of good character”. Insert instead “a fit and proper person or body”.

[11] Section 47 (2) and (3)
Insert at the end of section 47:

(2) In deciding whether the requirements for registration will be or are being complied with at or in relation to a non-government school, the Authority or the Minister is to have regard to matters relating to the quality of student learning. Such matters include, but are not limited to, the following:

(a) the standard of teaching of courses of study provided at the school,

(b) student engagement in learning at the school,

(c) any matters identified in a risk assessment conducted by the Authority in relation to the school.

(3) The rules of the Authority may specify matters, in addition to but not inconsistent with the matters referred to in subsection (2), that the Minister may have regard to in determining whether the requirements for registration will be or are being complied with at or in relation to a non-government school.

[12] Section 50 Consideration by Authority of application for initial registration of new non-government schools etc
Insert after section 50 (1):

(1A) The Authority may, in preparing the report, request the applicant for registration to provide such documentary or other evidence in support of the application as the Authority, based on a risk assessment, considers necessary. Despite subsection (1), the Authority is not required to provide the report to the Minister if any such requested information is not provided.

[13] Section 53A
Insert after section 53:

53A Conditions of registration

(1) The registration of a non-government school is subject to such conditions relating to the requirements for registration as the Minister may impose.
(whether at the time the school is registered or at any later time). Any such conditions are to be specified in the school’s certificate of registration.

(2) The Minister may not impose a condition on the registration of a non-government school unless the Authority has made a written recommendation to the Minister that the condition be imposed.

[14] Section 54A Renewal of registration
Insert “and conditions” after “terms” in section 54A (3) (b).

[15] Sections 55 (2), 57A (2), 59 (2) and 61 (2)
Insert “, or the conditions of,” after “requirements for” wherever occurring.

[16] Section 55 Authority to make recommendation about renewal of registration
Insert after section 55 (3):

(3A) Without affecting the operation of section 54A (3), the notice may also request the principal or proprietor of the school or the approved authority for the system to provide such documentary or other evidence in support of the application for renewal of registration as the Authority, based on a risk assessment, considers necessary. Despite subsection (1), the Authority is not required to make a recommendation to the Minister about the renewal of registration if any such requested information is not provided.

[17] Section 56 Renewal of registration by Minister
Insert “, and the conditions of,” after “requirements for” in section 56 (1).

[18] Section 57 Duration of renewal of registration
Omit “its” from section 57 (3). Insert instead “, or the conditions of,.”

[19] Section 69 Returns by schools
Insert at the end of the section:

(2) The approved form may require that the matters included in any such return are certified.

[20] Section 119 Delegation by Minister or Secretary
Omit the note. Insert instead:

Note. The power of the Authority to delegate its functions under this Act is contained in the Education Standards Authority Act 2013.

[21] Schedule 3 Savings, transitional and other provisions
Insert after Part 15:


36 Registration requirements for non-government schools
The amendments made to Subdivisions 2 and 3 of Division 2 of Part 7 of this Act by Schedule 2 to the Education and Teaching Legislation Amendment Act 2016 extend to an application under those Subdivisions that was made (but not determined) before the commencement of those amendments.
37 Conditions of registration of non-government schools

Section 53A, as inserted by Schedule 2 to the Education and Teaching Legislation Amendment Act 2016, extends to any non-government school registered before the commencement of that section.
Schedule 3  Amendment of Teacher Accreditation Act 2004 No 65

[1] The whole Act (except Schedule 3 and where otherwise amended by this Schedule)
Omit “Board” and “Board’s” wherever occurring.
Insert instead “Authority” and “Authority’s”, respectively.

[2] Section 3 Definitions
Omit the definition of Board from section 3 (1). Insert in alphabetical order:
Authority means the NSW Education Standards Authority constituted under
the Education Standards Authority Act 2013.

[3] Section 3 (1), definition of “Council”
Omit the definition. Insert in alphabetical order:
QTC means the Quality Teaching Committee established under section 12.

[4] Section 3 (1), definition of “President”
Omit the definition.

[5] Section 3 (1), definition of “rules of the Board”
Omit the definition. Insert instead:
rules of the Authority means rules made by the Authority under section 25 of
the Education Standards Authority Act 2013.
Note. The rules of the Authority only have effect if approved by the Minister.

[6] Sections 3 (1) (definition of “Secretary”) and 17 (1) (c) (i)
Omit “and Communities” wherever occurring.

[7] Part 2, heading
Omit “Board’s functions and Quality Teaching Council”.
Insert instead “Authority’s functions and Quality Teaching Committee”.

[8] Section 7 Functions of Authority under this Act
Omit “by the Minister” from section 7 (2) (f).

[9] Section 7 (3)
Omit “making recommendations to the Minister as to whether or not the Minister approve”.
Insert instead “making decisions whether or not to approve”.

[10] Part 2, Division 4
Omit the Division. Insert instead:

Division 4  Quality Teaching Committee

12 Establishment and functions of QTC
(1) The Quality Teaching Committee (the QTC) is established by this Act. The
QTC is a committee of the Board of the Authority.
(2) The QTC has the following functions:

(a) to provide advice to the Board of the Authority in connection with the exercise of the Authority’s functions under this Act,

(b) such of the Authority’s functions under this Act as are delegated to the QTC by the Authority under the Education Standards Authority Act 2013.

13 Membership of QTC

(1) The QTC is to consist of the following members:

(a) 5 persons (the elected members) who are persons accredited under this Act and who are elected, in accordance with the regulations, by those persons whose are enrolled on the electoral list referred to in section 17,

(b) 6 persons (the appointed members) who are appointed by the Minister and who, in the opinion of the Minister, together have skills and experience that will assist the QTC in exercising its functions.

(2) One of the appointed members is, by the instrument of that member’s appointment or by a subsequent instrument executed by the Minister, to be appointed as the Chairperson of the QTC.

(3) A person may hold office as a member of the QTC for terms totalling not more than 6 years.

(4) If a term of office of an elected member of the QTC is extended in accordance with the regulations so that the term exceeds 3 years, the part of the term that exceeds 3 years is to be disregarded for the purposes of subsection (3).

(5) Schedule 2 contains provisions with respect to the members and procedure of the QTC.

[11] Section 17 Electoral list

Omit “Council” from section 17 (1) (b). Insert instead “QTC”.

[12] Section 20 Matters to be dealt with by professional teaching standards

Omit “(including the revocation or suspension of accreditation)” from section 20 (c). Insert instead “and by the Authority in relation to the suspension or revocation of any such accreditation”.

[13] Section 20 (d) and (e)

Omit “Minister” wherever occurring. Insert instead “Authority”.

[14] Section 20 (2) and (3)

Insert at the end of section 20:

(2) Any procedures or guidelines under the professional teaching standards in relation to the suspension or revocation by the Authority of the accreditation of persons:

(a) must be consistent with the rules of procedural fairness, and

(b) are subject to section 24C.
(3) Any approval by the Authority under the professional teaching standards of a teacher education course or program or of the persons or bodies who may provide professional development:
   (a) is subject to such conditions as the Authority thinks fit to impose (including while the approval is in force), and
   (b) may be suspended or revoked at any time by the Authority.

[15] Section 21 Accreditation of teachers at schools and early childhood education centres
Omit section 21 (1). Insert instead:

(1) The teacher accreditation authority for a school or early childhood education centre may, in accordance with this Part, accredit any person who is employed to teach in the school or centre (including any person who has applied for a position as a teacher in the school or centre).

[16] Sections 21 (2) and 27 (1) (b)
Omit “a teacher accreditation authority” wherever occurring. Insert instead “the Authority”.

[17] Sections 24 (1), 24A (1) and (2), 24B and 24C (1)
Omit “A teacher accreditation authority” wherever occurring.
Insert instead “The Authority”.

[18] Sections 24 (1) and 24A (1) and (2) (c)
Omit “the authority” wherever occurring. Insert instead “the Authority”.

[19] Sections 24 (2) and 24A (3) and (5)
Omit the subsections.

[20] Section 24A (2)
Omit “authority’s”. Insert instead “Authority’s”.

[21] Section 24C (2)
Omit “the teacher accreditation authority”. Insert instead “the Authority”.

[22] Section 24E
Insert after section 24D:

24E Voluntary cancellation of accreditation
The Authority may, on application by a person who is accredited, cancel the person’s accreditation.

[23] Section 27 Administrative review of certain decisions
Omit section 27 (1) (c). Insert instead:

(c) the refusal or failure of the Authority to approve:
   (i) a teacher education course or program for the purposes of this Act, or
   (ii) a person or body to provide professional development in accordance with the requirements of the professional teaching standards,
   (d) the revocation or suspension of any such approval by the Authority.
[24] Section 27 (2)
Omit “Any such decision by a teacher accreditation authority”.
Insert instead “A decision of a kind referred to in subsection (1)”.

[25] Section 42B Requirement for Authority to be notified of certain matters
Insert after section 42B (2):

(3) If, in the case of a person who is accredited, the person’s employer or relevant teacher accreditation authority has or is aware of any information that is or may be relevant to any of the grounds for which the person’s accreditation may be suspended or revoked by the Authority under this Act, the employer or teacher accreditation authority must, in accordance with the rules of the Authority, notify the Authority that the employer or authority has or is aware of that information.

Maximum penalty: 50 penalty units.

(4) For the purposes of subsection (3), the relevant teacher accreditation authority in relation to a person is:

(a) the relevant teacher accreditation authority that accredited the person, or
(b) the teacher accreditation authority for the school or early childhood education centre at which the person is employed.

[26] Section 45 Delegations
Omit the note to section 45 (1). Insert instead:

Note. The power of the Authority to delegate its functions under this Act is contained in the Education Standards Authority Act 2013.

[27] Section 48 Protection from personal liability for members of Council
Omit the section.

[28] Section 52 Regulations
Omit section 52 (1A) (b). Insert instead:

(b) without limiting paragraph (a), fees and charges in relation to the approval by the Authority, on application, of teacher education courses and programs for the purposes of this Act or of persons or bodies to provide professional development in accordance with the professional teaching standards.

[29] Schedule 2, heading
Omit “the Council”. Insert instead “QTC”.

[30] Schedule 2
Insert before clause 1:

Note. See also section 12C of the Education Standards Authority Act 2013 which contains provisions relating to the QTC.

[31] Schedule 2, clause 1, definition of “member”
Omit the definition. Insert instead:

member means any member of the QTC.
[32] **Schedule 2, clause 4**

Omit “An appointed member or an elected member”. Insert instead “A member”.

[33] **Schedule 2, clause 6**

Omit “an appointed member or an elected member” wherever occurring in clause 6 (1) and (1A).

Insert instead “a member”.

[34] **Schedule 2, clauses 6 (1) (e), 7 and 9–13**

Omit “Council” wherever occurring. Insert instead “QTC”.

[35] **Schedule 2, clause 8**

Omit the clause.

[36] **Schedule 2, clause 9**

Omit “13 members”. Insert instead “7 members”.

[37] **Schedule 2, clause 10**

Omit “President or, in the absence of the President,.”.

Insert instead “Chairperson of the QTC or, in the absence of the Chairperson,”.

[38] **Schedule 2, clause 12 (3)**

Omit “President”. Insert instead “Chairperson of the QTC”.

[39] **Schedule 3 Savings and transitional provisions**

Insert after Part 4:

**Part 5 Provisions consequent on enactment of Education and Teaching Legislation Amendment Act 2016**

12 **Existing approvals by Minister**

Any approval by the Minister of an initial or continuing teacher education course or program for the purposes of this Act or of any person or body to provide professional development in accordance with the professional teaching standards, being an approval in force immediately before the commencement of this clause, is taken to be an approval by the Authority.

13 **Abolition of Quality Teaching Council**

(1) The Quality Teaching Council (as established under Division 4 of Part 2 of this Act immediately before the substitution of that Division by the Education and Teaching Legislation Amendment Act 2016) is abolished.

(2) Each member of the Quality Teaching Council ceases to hold office as a member and is not entitled to any remuneration or compensation because of the loss of that office.
14 **Interim elected members of QTC**

Until such time as members of the QTC are elected in accordance with section 13 (1) (a) (as substituted by the *Education and Teaching Legislation Amendment Act 2016*), the elected members of the QTC are to consist of those former elected members of the Quality Teaching Council as are determined by or in accordance with the regulations.
Schedule 4  Amendment of other legislation

4.1 Government Information (Public Access) Regulation 2009

   Schedule 3 Agencies declared to be part of other agencies
   Omit “Office of the Board of Studies” from the matter relating to the Australian Music Examinations Board NSW.
   Insert instead “NSW Education Standards Authority Staff Agency”.

4.2 Government Sector Employment Act 2013 No 40

   Schedule 1 Public Service agencies
   Omit the matter relating to the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards Staff Agency from Part 3.
   Insert in alphabetical order:

   - NSW Education Standards Authority Staff Agency
   - Chief Executive Officer of the NSW Education Standards Authority. The Minister administering the Education Standards Authority Act 2013 is to exercise the employer functions of the Government in relation to the Chief Executive Officer.

4.3 Public Finance and Audit Act 1983 No 152

   Schedule 2 Statutory bodies
   Omit “Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards”.
   Insert in appropriate order:

   - NSW Education Standards Authority