



Annual Report

2024–25

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Organisational Change Overview

This last year has marked a transformative period for ACT Parents, formerly known as the ACT Council of Parents and Citizens Associations. We embarked on an ambitious program of organisational renewal designed to modernise our operations, enhance the way we support our members, and better reflect the needs and expectations of ACT public school P&Cs and parents and carers.

At the heart of these changes is our new [Strategic Plan](#), developed to guide us into the future with a sharper focus and clearer purpose. Our renewed vision and purpose reflect our commitment to being a more inclusive, proactive and impactful organisation. The strategy commits us to continue supporting P&Cs while creating new pathways for individual parents and carers to engage with and influence the public education system.

A key initiative supporting this vision was our Membership Model Review. The outcome was a complete overhaul of our membership structure, simplifying categories and creating more inclusive, flexible opportunities for participation. We also developed a new, more predictable fee structure, which will make it easier for P&Cs to plan their finances. The streamlined approach also reduces manual administration, allowing our office staff to focus more on direct member support. These reforms are designed to better reflect our membership's diversity, enable broader engagement, and ensure the long-term sustainability of our work.

To give effect to these changes, we updated our Constitution. This was an important governance milestone that was achieved with the support of our members. The constitutional changes formalised our broader role, our new membership categories and new voting rules.

In line with our broader purpose and strategy, we adopted a new name and visual identity. The transition to *ACT Parents* better reflects our evolving role as the representative voice for all ACT public school parents and carers. Alongside this, we launched new branding, designed to communicate our values of inclusion, empowerment, and collaboration.

Significantly, we started the process for a major technology upgrade, to replace outdated digital infrastructure with a modern member management system and a new website. Once completed these upgrades will improve our capacity to connect with members, share resources, and streamline administrative processes. Our website, developed in 2014, no longer met accessibility or

functional standards. Our redesigned digital presence will provide an intuitive, responsive, and secure platform for communication, membership, and advocacy.

Throughout the year, our commitment to consultation, transparency and member empowerment remained central. The transformation was shaped by our community and supported through regular engagement, including general meetings, direct communications, and multiple rounds of feedback.

Looking ahead, these changes position ACT Parents to deliver more targeted support, foster deeper community engagement, and advocate more effectively for public school families. They also lay the groundwork for future initiatives, including a Parent Advocacy Service.

This period of renewal has reaffirmed our belief in the power of parents to shape the future of public education. With a strong foundation in place, we are excited to continue building a more responsive, relevant, and representative organisation in the years to come.



The 2025 Executive Committee

President's report

It's been a big year of change for our organisation, and I've been proud to lead ACT Parents through it. One of the most visible changes has been our new name and refreshed look, which marks an exciting new chapter for our organisation. Over the coming months, we'll continue rolling this out across our materials and platforms, making it easier for families to recognise and connect with us.



A key moment in the past year was the ACT Election. We were proud to host a well-attended education forum featuring spokespeople from all major political parties. It gave members the opportunity to ask questions, hear policy commitments firsthand, and make informed decisions about the future of public education in our territory. We were especially pleased to see a commitment for a dedicated Parent Advocacy Service to be delivered by ACT Parents, something we have called for. While funding has not yet been allocated, we are optimistic about the implementation of this important service in the near future. It will support families to better navigate the education system and help prevent issues from arising or escalating.

This was a double-election year, with the federal election following in May 2025. We proudly promoted the wonderful P&C-run stalls held on polling day across ACT public schools. Whether it was a sausage sizzle, cake stall or mini fete, these events showcased the vibrancy of our public-school communities and the dedication of our volunteers. They also raised much-needed funds for school projects and helped build stronger connections between schools and their local communities.

Throughout the year, we continued our strong advocacy on issues that matter to public school families. We've maintained our focus on school equity, inclusive education, infrastructure and maintenance, parent engagement, and volunteer support. These are enduring priorities for ACT Parents, and we continue to bring the parent voice into important policy discussions and decision-making forums.

None of this work would be possible without our members and the many incredible volunteers who give their time to make ACT public schools even better places to learn and grow. Thank you for everything you do. Your energy and commitment inspire us.

Finally, I'd like to thank the dedicated members of our Executive Committee for their leadership and support over the past year. And of course, a heartfelt thank you to our wonderful office staff whose professionalism, insight and care ensure ACT Parent's work continues to make a meaningful impact.

Liane Joubert

President

Executive Officer's report

The past year has been one of renewal and progress for ACT Parents, as we've strengthened our systems, deepened our advocacy, and expanded the ways we support public-school parents and carers.



Our transition to our new name and identity has been more than a rebrand, it represents a clearer, stronger voice for parents in the ACT public education system. The refreshed website and communications we are developing will make it easier for parents, P&Cs, and schools to access the information and support they need, when they need it.

Operationally, we've focused on consolidating the improvements made in recent years. Our ongoing technology and record management reforms are delivering tangible benefits, creating a more responsive, efficient and transparent organisation. These changes ensure that as the needs of our members evolve, ACT Parents remains agile and well equipped to meet them.

Member support has continued to grow in both volume and complexity. Parents and P&C volunteers increasingly seek advice that blends practical governance support with an understanding of the relational and systemic issues they face. From constitutions and canteens to conflict resolution and collaboration with school leadership, the issues are varied, but the goal is always the same: to help parents feel confident and supported in shaping their school communities.

This year also saw significant activity in our advocacy and representation. We contributed to consultations on topics including literacy and numeracy, student wellbeing, disability inclusion, and the future of school infrastructure. Our engagement with the ACT Education Directorate, the Minister, and other sector partners remains strong and constructive, ensuring that parents' insights inform decision-making at every level.

A particular highlight was our ACT Election Forum, which gave parents a rare opportunity to hear directly from education spokespeople from all major parties. It was also encouraging to see the commitment to trial a Parent Advocacy Service, a long-standing ACT Parents priority that will help families navigate the education system and resolve issues early.

Behind the scenes, our small but dedicated staff team has continued to deliver high-quality support to members while managing competing demands and tight timeframes. I am deeply proud of their professionalism, adaptability, and shared commitment to our mission.

As we look to the year ahead, our focus will remain on strengthening our organisational capability, expanding our reach, and building a culture of inclusion and collaboration across all levels of our work. Together with our Executive Committee, members, and partners, we will continue to empower parents and shape a stronger, more equitable public education system for every child.

Veronica Elliott

Executive Officer

About Us

Our Structure

ACT Parents is proudly grounded in the voices of public-school communities. Each P&C association that joins as a member appoints a representative who holds voting rights at our meetings, ensuring that every school community has a say in our direction. In addition, individual parents and carers are welcome to join, broadening our reach and inclusivity. Our Executive Committee, made up of elected Executive Members, brings together representatives from both P&C associations and individual members, reflecting the diverse perspectives of the ACT public school parent community.

Our Staff

ACT Parents is supported by a dedicated team of five part-time staff who manage our day-to-day operations and provide responsive support to our members. Working closely with and guided by the Executive Committee, our staff bring

valuable expertise and commitment to helping parents and P&Cs navigate their role in shaping public education.



Veronica Elliott
Executive Officer



Melissa Lee
Executive Assistant



Julie McLean
Policy Officer



Marina Spurgin
Early Learning
Officer



Frances Stewart
Communications
Officer

Executive Committee

Our current Executive Committee was elected at the Annual General Meeting on 5 November 2024. The Executive Committee is responsible for the governance and strategic leadership of ACT Parents. They play a vital role in guiding our representative work and ensuring we deliver meaningful support to members across the ACT public school system.

Throughout the year, Executive Members represented ACT Parents at key meetings with decision-makers in education, including:

- The Minister for Education and Early Childhood, Yvette Berry MLA
- The Senior Executive Team of the ACT Education Directorate
- The ACT Branch of the Australian Education Union

These conversations ensure that parent voices are part of the decisions shaping our schools.

Highlights from 2024–25 include:

- Holding nine Executive Committee meetings to oversee operations and set strategic priorities
- Meeting all governance and funding obligations, maintaining strong organisational accountability
- Driving major reforms, including the development of our new Strategic Plan, modernised membership model, new name, and refreshed branding—laying the foundation for a future-ready and inclusive parent organisation
- Celebrating our incredible P&C volunteers during National Volunteer Week 2025 with a special networking event

In March 2025, ACT Parents was honoured with a Canberra Gold Award, recognising our long-standing commitment to public education and parent engagement in schools. Presented by the Chief Minister, the award celebrates individuals and groups who have called Canberra home for 50 years or more and have made a lasting contribution to the community. Executive and life member Vivienne Pearce OAM accepted the award on behalf of our organisation.



The leadership of the Executive Committee has been instrumental in guiding ACT Parents through a significant year of renewal and growth, helping us stay connected to our community while expanding our vision for the future.

2024-25 ACT Parents Executive Committee



Liane Joubert
President
Cranleigh School P&C



Kirsty McGovern-Hooley
Vice President & Treasurer
Individual member



Brendan Mace
Vice President
Individual Member



Mahreen Ali
Secretary
Narrabundah College



Sharon Ding
Belconnen High
School P&C



Alison Elliott
Belconnen High
School P&C



Jamii-Lee Evans
Palmerston District
School P&C



Sarah Everingham
Gordon Primary School
P&C



Vivienne Pearce OAM
Life Member



Kath Caller
Mount Rogers Primary
School P&C



Brendan Mace
Vice President
Individual Member



Sarah Rullis
Palmerston District
School P&C

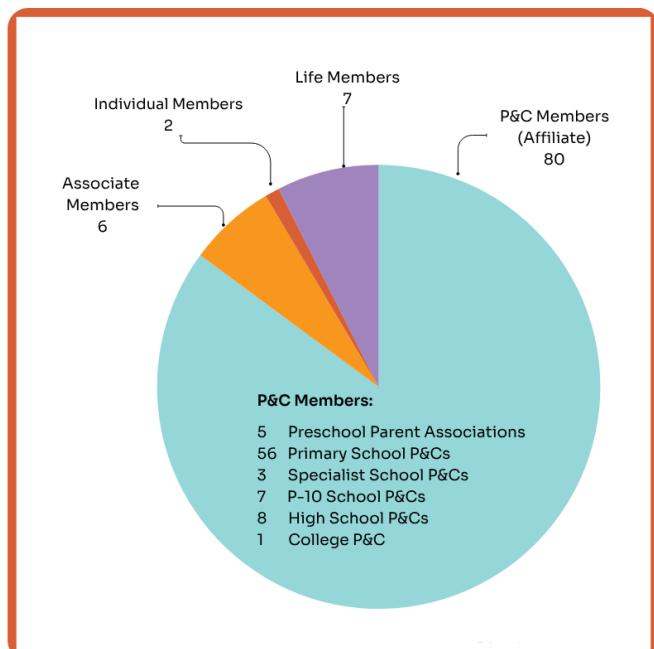
Our Members

Our members are 80 ACT public school P&C Associations and Preschool Parent Associations, as well as associate members, life and individual members.



The 2024–25 year marked the final year of associate memberships, a category that included six playgroup associations carried forward from the former Canberra Preschool Society. As our membership model evolved, we appreciated the goodwill and understanding shown by these members through the transition and wish them continued success in their work with young families.

ACT Parents has seven life members.



Membership at a glance

The impact of our members

Our P&C members enrich public education by connecting parents, building community, and driving positive change in their schools.

Their effort, from fundraising and advocacy to managing key services, deliver lasting benefits for students, families, and staff.

Our members provide



Our Key Partners

ACT Parents works in partnership with a range of external stakeholders to help strengthen the ACT public education system. We value the diversity of perspectives our partners bring, which enhances our advocacy and ensures we remain a strong and informed voice for parents and carers across public school communities.



ACT Education Directorate

Our relationship with the ACT Education Directorate continued to deepen in 2024-25, with regular formal meetings, active participation in consultations, and strong collaborative ties with key staff. This year, ACT Parents contributed to several strategic stakeholder groups, including the Disability Education Reference Group, the Strong Foundations Implementation Partners Group, the Safe and Schools Taskforce Advisory Group and the Allied Health Review, helping to shape policy and practice in critical areas.

We appreciate the financial support provided through the annual grant administered by the Directorate. This funding underpins our work and enables us to continue delivering high-quality services and advocacy for public school families.

Australian Council of State School Organisations (ACSSO)

As a member of ACSSO, the national peak body for parents in government schools, ACT Parents plays an important role in ensuring the views of ACT families are heard on national platforms. We contribute to ACSSO through board and general meeting representation, as well as by offering insight and analysis for national consultations. This partnership helps elevate the voices of ACT parents in federal education policy conversations.

Australian Education Union (ACT Branch)

ACT Parents met with the Australian Education Union (ACT Branch) throughout the year to discuss shared priorities and emerging issues across the education system. These conversations provide a valuable forum for exchanging perspectives and deepening mutual understanding between our two organisations.

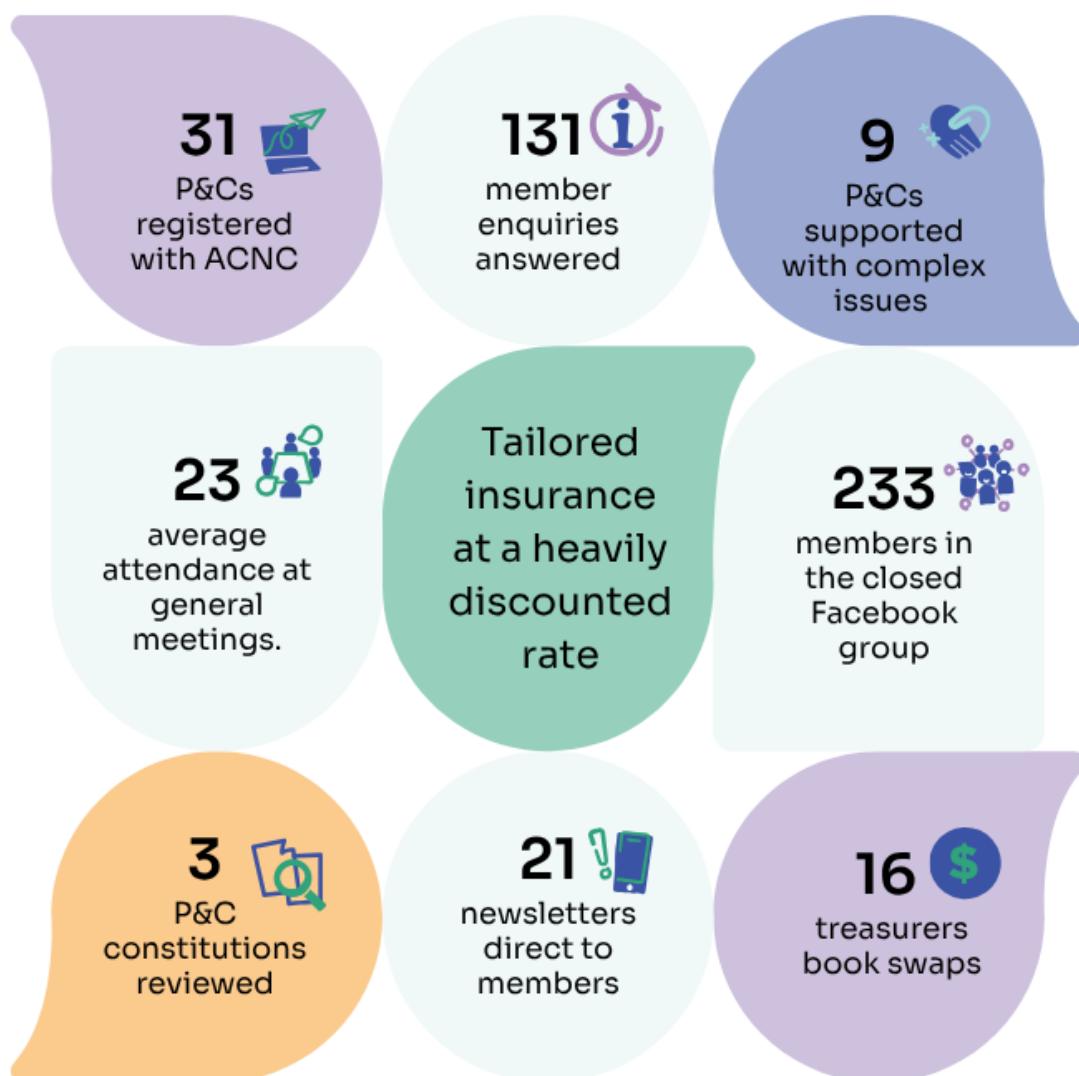
This year, we shared parent views on a range of key topics including workforce and staffing challenges, school infrastructure, and inclusive education. These exchanges help inform our advocacy and ensure that our engagement with members is grounded in a broader understanding of the education landscape.

Canteen Stakeholders

Supporting healthy and sustainable school canteens remains an important focus for ACT Parents. We work alongside ACT Health and Nutrition Australia to stay updated on school food environments and support P&Cs managing public school canteens. Our involvement in the Collaborative Working Group on Food at School keeps us across emerging issues and enables us to advocate effectively on behalf of volunteers and canteen managers.

Supporting P&Cs to Thrive

Member services and supports up close



Assisting members

ACT Parents continues to provide comprehensive support to help P&Cs run effective, compliant, and confident associations. Through practical resources, tailored guidance, and strong connections, we empower P&Cs to thrive and contribute meaningfully to their school communities.

This year, we began major initiatives to strengthen member services, including the development of a new member management system and website. Partnering with Toucan Tech, we're modernising how members access information and support. The groundwork is now well underway to deliver a seamless, user-friendly experience for members in the coming year.

Targeted Member Support

Member enquiries

One of our most valued services is our advice line. Members contact us with questions about running their P&C, managing services, or meeting compliance requirements.

This year, office staff handled 131 member enquiries, providing timely, practical advice across a wide range of topics:



Targeted Support for Complex Challenges

Not every enquiry is straightforward. Some issues take time, careful research, and collaboration to resolve. Members tell us it's reassuring to have someone who listens and helps develop a practical course of action.

This year, we assisted nine P&Cs with complex and time-consuming matters, often involving several meetings or discussions with the member, liaising with Education Directorate staff and researching tailored solutions. These included helping members to:



- Rebuild committees and improve engagement
- Resolve internal conflicts
- Decide the viability of operating services like canteens or OSHC
- Meet regulatory obligations
- Strengthen school-P&C relationships

Supporting P&Cs Through ACNC Registration

A major project this year was supporting P&Cs to register with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) following changes to Australian Taxation Office (ATO) policy. These changes meant that not-for-profits with a charitable purpose and an ABN could no longer self-assess for income tax exemption.

ACT Parents liaised directly with both the ACNC and ATO, fielding member questions and coordinating a bulk registration process. This nine-month project involved three rounds of applications and resulted in 31 P&Cs successfully registering by the 31 March 2025 deadline, bringing them into line with regulatory requirements and simplifying future reporting.



Building Member Engagement & Community

Fostering Collaboration and Connection

Our members continued to engage actively through ACT Parents events, meetings, and social media. The closed Facebook group for P&C leaders and members now has 233 members and remains a lively space for sharing successes, seeking advice, and connecting with fellow members.

During the year, members made 64 posts to exchange equipment, share ideas, seek or give recommendations, and discuss ways to increase family engagement in P&C activities.

ACT Parents also:

- Highlighted member activities on social media and in local media, especially election-day fundraising BBQs.
- Hosted a National Volunteer Week Celebration during the May general meeting to thank P&C volunteers and recognise achievements.
- Gave members direct access to ACT election candidates at the Public Education Election Forum, featuring speakers from major political parties.



- Introduced interactive tools like *Slido* during meetings to gather real-time feedback, inform advocacy priorities, and foster open discussion among members.

General meetings

Our general meetings remain an important forum for members to connect, raise issues, and influence ACT Parents' direction. In 2024/25 an average of 23 members attended each meeting, with discussions covering topics such as:

- Parent Portal and personal data
- School infrastructure
- In-school music programs.
- The future of school canteens
- Students access to toilets
- Public education asks for the ACT election
- ACT Parents resources for P&Cs
- Health promotion programs in schools.
- Outcomes for public education from the 2025/26 ACT Budget
- ACT Education Directorate corporate sponsorship policy.
- Addressing bullying in schools



We also welcomed the valuable insights of speakers from:

- The School Safety Team, Transport Canberra, on how P&Cs can raise transport, infrastructure and safety concerns of their school community.

- The Infrastructure and Planning Team, ACT Education Directorate on the strategic and policy environment guiding infrastructure planning and maintenance.
- The Digital Technology team from the ACT Education Directorate the parent portal implementation.

Shaping the future together

This year, members played a central role in shaping ACT Parents' transformation. Through general meetings and consultations, members helped steer key milestones, including changing our name and updating the constitution to reflect broader membership categories that support more effective advocacy and organisational sustainability.

We thank members for their trust, engagement, and collaboration in this once-in-a-generation renewal of our organisation.

Publications and Digital Presence

Fortnightly Newsletter – ACT Parents Update



Our fortnightly electronic newsletter, Communicator, continues to be a key channel for reaching our members with timely updates, reminders, and practical advice. With just over 1,000 subscribers, the newsletter offers valuable content tailored to the needs of P&C associations and individual parents across the ACT.

In 2024–25, we published 21 issues, featuring news on advocacy work, policy updates, operational tips for P&Cs, and resources to support stronger school communities. Reader engagement, tracked through MailChimp analytics, shows steady year-on-year improvement in both open rates and click-throughs, reflecting the relevance and usefulness of the content we deliver.

Website



Our website remained a trusted resource hub for members throughout the year. High-traffic sections included our template library, which helped streamline P&C operations and improve administrative confidence for volunteers.

As we prepare for the launch of a brand-new website, we have begun to retire outdated content to make way for refreshed, user-friendly, and accessible resources. This redevelopment reflects our commitment to providing digital tools that are not only functional but also responsive to the evolving needs of our members and the broader public school parent community.



Facebook

The ACT Parents Facebook page continued to grow in reach and engagement, with 1.6K followers during the reporting period (1 July 2024 – 30 June 2025). Our social media presence plays a key role in real-time communication, community-building, and amplifying the parent voice on local education matters.



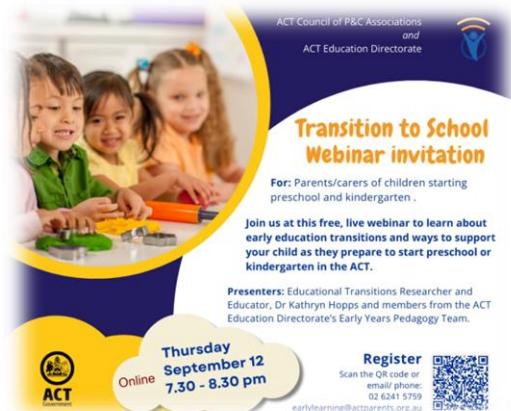
This year, our Facebook post highlighting concerns about the \$11 Working With Vulnerable People (WWVP) registration fee for volunteers struck a chord with the community. The post, which called out the unfairness of placing financial barriers on school volunteers, received 8,836 views and 183 interactions, and helped rally support for a petition urging the government to reconsider the fee.

Overall, our Facebook engagement increased by 4.6%, with a 4.1% rise in content interactions, reflecting a growing appetite for advocacy updates, practical resources, and recognition of the important work done by parents and carers in public schools.

Mobilising Parents for Impact

Transition to School Parent and Carer Webinar

On 12 September 2024, ACT Parents in collaboration with the ACT Education Directorate co-hosted a free webinar to support families preparing for their child's transition to preschool or kindergarten in 2025. Over 200 people registered to attend the event which featured Educational Transitions Researcher Dr Kathryn Hopps and members of the ACT Education Directorate's Early Years Pedagogy Team.



The webinar offered practical strategies and insights to help families navigate this important milestone, covering topics such as the role of strong transitions in supporting learning and development, what to expect in the early years of school, building children's confidence, connecting with school communities, and accessing further support and resources.

Calls for a Parent Advocacy Service

Through strong media coverage on a range of topics this year, ACT Parents' profile has grown significantly. As a result, we saw an increase in contact from non-members, parents and carers in the public education system, seeking support to help resolve issues affecting their child's school experience.



Many of these enquiries related to school safety, student wellbeing and inclusion, as well as broader system issues such as complaints handling and enrolment policies.



These conversations show that families want their voices heard. Many parents are turning to ACT Parents as a trusted organisation to help them navigate the public education system and advocate on the issues that matter most to their families. This growing demand has strengthened our case for establishing a Parent Advocacy Service to meet this demonstrated need within the community.

Positively Influencing Policy

ACT Parents is committed to being a strong, credible voice for public school families across the ACT. We advocate on behalf of both individual parents and P&C associations, sharing their insights and lived experiences with decision-makers.

From classrooms to canteens, school infrastructure to school transport, we provide input across all aspects of the public-school experience. Our goal is to ensure that parent perspectives are not only heard, but meaningfully considered in shaping policies, programs, and school life.

Key Achievements in 2024–25

Over the past year, ACT Parents has continued to champion the voices of public-school families across the ACT. Through advocacy, representation, and community engagement, we have worked to shape better outcomes for students, parents, and carers. Some of our key achievements for the 2024–25 financial year include:

2024–25 Highlights: At a Glance

 55 Media Appearances Parent voices featured on key issues including school funding, traffic safety, complaints processes, and school infrastructure.	 ACT Election Forum Hosted a pre-election forum with education spokespeople from all major parties.
 21 Newsletters Delivered targeted updates and resources to over 1,000 subscribers.	 6 Press Releases Issued timely and strategic releases amplifying public school parent concerns.
 5 Parent Surveys Explored experiences on fundraising, elections, feedback systems and corporate sponsorship.	 Policy Submissions Input into the Better and Fairer Schools Bill, MyWay+ Inquiry, and BSSS Strategic Plan.
 Directorate Committees Represented parents on Allied Health Review, Strong Foundations, and Disability Education Reference Group.	 Parent Advocacy Service Secured political commitment for a dedicated Parent Advocacy Service.

Raising Parent Voices in the ACT Election

In the lead-up to the 2024 ACT Election, ACT Parents hosted a well-attended Election Forum, bringing together education spokespeople from all major political parties. This important event gave parents the opportunity to hear directly from candidates about their plans for public education and to ask questions on the issues that matter most to families.

As a result of our sustained election advocacy, we successfully secured a commitment from the Labor Party to support the establishment of a Parent Advocacy Service, a service designed to help parents navigate the education system and have their voices heard.

Strong Policy Contributions

ACT Parents played an active role in shaping education policy at both the territory and federal levels. This included:

- Preparing a detailed submission to the Commonwealth Better and Fairer Schools Bill, advocating for needs-based, equitable funding for public schools in all states and territories.
- Providing input into the ACT Board of Senior Secondary Studies (BSSS) Strategic Plan, ensuring parent views were included in the long-term planning for senior secondary education.
- Contributing to the ACT Legislative Assembly Inquiry into the Rollout of MyWay+, voicing concerns and feedback about the impact on students.



Advocacy That Makes a Difference

We mobilised our members to participate in a campaign opposing the introduction of a proposed \$11 fee for Working With Vulnerable People (WWVP) registration for school volunteers. Through a widely shared social media campaign, we successfully helped stop the introduction of the fee, removing a potential barrier to volunteer participation in schools.

Representatives on Government and Community Committees

ACT Parents appoints elected parent representatives to a wide range of ACT Government and community committees. These representatives ensure that the voices of parents and carers are present in important conversations, contributing perspectives grounded in real-world experience. Their involvement strengthens decision-making by bringing a parent lens to policies, programs and initiatives that impact public school communities.



In 2024–25, ACT Parents provided formal representation on the following boards and committees:

ACT Parents Committee Representation Table

Board/Committee	Overview	ACT Parents Representative
Australian Council of State School Organisations (ACSSO)	ACSSO is the national peak body for parents of students in public schools. ACT Parents contributes both a director and a general representative, ensuring that ACT voices are heard at the federal level.	Damien Ellwood (Director), Vivienne Pearce OAM (Representative) Alison Elliott (Representative)
ACT Schools' Animal Ethics Committee	This committee oversees the ethical treatment of animals used in ACT schools for educational purposes, assessing and responding to school applications before animals are placed in classrooms.	Marina Spurgin
ACT Board of Senior Secondary Studies (BSSS)	The BSSS certifies senior secondary studies across ACT government and non-government schools. ACT Parents' representative works to ensure all students have positive and equitable college experiences.	Meredith Harkness
ACT School Sport Council	This council manages School Sport ACT and	Michelle Kaumbuthu, Brendan Mace

	provides strategic direction, policy development, and oversight of school sporting programs across the ACT.	
Collaborative Working Group on Healthy Eating in Schools	A cross-sector working group that brings together stakeholders involved in food provision in schools. ACT Parents participates to stay informed and support P&Cs running canteens.	Marina Spurgin
Disability Education Reference Group	Convened by the ACT Education Directorate, this group includes community and government organisations working to support students with disability. It contributes to policy and provides advice on inclusive education.	Sharon Ding, Liane Joubert, Julie McLean
Healthy Schools Network ACT	A collective of not-for-profits and government programs focused on improving health and mental wellbeing outcomes in ACT school communities.	Michelle Kaumbuthu, Marina Spurgin
School Transport Liaison Committee	Hosted by Transport Canberra, this committee provides a forum for addressing student transport concerns across public, Catholic and independent schools.	Daniel Hughes
Gambling Harm Prevention Working Group (Secondary Schools)	A working group supporting the development of education strategies to prevent gambling harm among ACT youth, with input from key stakeholders and experts.	Kirsty McGovern-Hooley
Community Radio 2XX Board	2XX is a volunteer-run community radio station. ACT Parents contributes an education perspective through its seat on the board.	Vivienne Pearce OAM

Community Insights to Inform Policy

To guide our policy development and advocacy, we conducted several targeted surveys throughout the year. These included:



- Parent and P&C election experience surveys at both the 2024 ACT and 2025 Federal Elections
- A survey on fundraising experiences, highlighting the challenges and successes of school-based fundraising efforts
- Feedback on the complaints process in ACT public schools, helping inform our call for systemic improvements
- A survey on corporate sponsorship, exploring parent views on commercial partnerships in schools

These insights continue to shape our advocacy priorities and strengthen our ability to represent the lived experiences of parents and carers.

Representation in Media

In 2024–25, ACT Parents continued to be a visible and influential voice in the media, representing the interests of parents, carers and P&Cs across the Territory. Over the course of the year, we featured in 55 media stories, ensuring parent perspectives were included in public dialogue on a range of education and community issues.



Key topics covered in the media included election day fundraisers, traffic and parking concerns around schools, and broader questions of safety and infrastructure. Through these appearances, ACT Parents helped raise awareness and drive conversations about the everyday challenges and successes experienced by public school communities.

We also supported local P&Cs to share their views on important school-level matters, such as playground upgrades and road safety improvements, amplifying the voices of parents on issues that directly affect their children's learning and wellbeing.

Throughout the year, ACT Parents issued six media releases to proactively shape public discussion and advocate for meaningful change:

- Families Left Waiting: Budget Ignores Parent Advocacy Needs
- Sausages Fuel ACT School Fundraisers This Election
- Parents Demand Urgent Overhaul of ACT Schools Complaint System
- Council Urges More Timely Communication with Parents Amid Bus Disruptions
- Bike Cage Incident Highlights What Needs to Change in ACT Public Schools
- Support Your Local School with a Democracy Sausage!



These media engagements reflect our commitment to strong, solutions-focused advocacy. They ensure that the voices of parents and carers are heard in the public domain, particularly on the issues that shape their children's education experiences and the health of school communities across the ACT.

Strategic Plan

Finance Report

Strategic Direction

Vision • Parents actively shaping and enhancing public education in the ACT

Purpose • Empowering parents to shape their child's public education experience

Strategy • Continue to support the success of P&Cs in the ACT while developing other pathways for parents to positively impact their child's public education experience

Strategic Priorities

Supporting P&Cs to Thrive

Enhance Capability
Provide P&Cs with access to insights, resources, and training to develop and maintain their knowledge and skills.

Reduce Administration
Offer templates and resources to streamline operations and reduce their P&C workload.

Deliver Practical Support
Explore opportunities to develop partnerships that allow P&Cs to outsource key services (such as Canteen management, After-school care, Uniform sales, Equipment storage and loan).

Support P&Cs to Evolve
Help P&Cs adapt to the modern landscape and the evolving needs of their communities.

Mobilise Parents for Impact

Raise Parent Voices Collectively
Identify and focus on high-impact issues such as mental health support, anti-bullying, and digital literacy. Mobilise parents, drive engagement, and create a grassroots movement. Amplify voices through broader community advocacy, media attention, and partnerships.

Support Parents to Advance Their Issues
Develop pathways for individual parents to engage with the education system and create impact on issues that matter to them.

Build a Powerful Social Following
Use existing digital platforms to reach parents. Establish a strong presence on social media. Create engaging, informative content on how parents can get involved.

Positively Influence Policy

Enable Parents to Inform Advocacy
Gather feedback from parents about their needs and concerns. Share results and use this data to tailor engagement strategies and address key issues.

Drive Meaningful Change in Education
Select key issues to actively pursue (e.g. equity in education, teacher workforce, student mental health and well-being, bullying). Establish positions, set goals, and advance action plans.

Foster Productive Dialogue with Policy Makers
Establish and nurture relationships with key policy makers to ensure ongoing dialogue and influence.

Operational Priorities

Awesome Team

Support our staff to build a skilled, motivated, and cohesive team with the capabilities and capacity to deliver these strategies.

Brand Strength

Launch a rebrand that delivers a strong identity reflecting our broader focus as an organisation.

Digitally Enabled

Leverage digital solutions to build capacity and capability. Reduce administrative workloads. Streamline stakeholder engagement. Enhance productivity.

Secure Funding

Ensure financial sustainability by optimising existing revenue streams and building new, strong revenue streams.



ACT Parents receives an annual grant from the ACT Education Directorate to deliver our core purpose, supporting P&Cs, representing parents and carers, and promoting parent engagement in public education. For the 2024–25 financial year, the grant amount was \$250,567.

Additional income was generated through one-off grants, interest, and the modest membership fees collected from P&Cs, totalling \$39,184.

As in previous years, the largest expenditure was wages. Rising employment costs and growing operational demands have continued to drive this increase.

During the year, ACT Parents made a significant investment in modernising its systems and services following several years of planning. This included the membership model review, initiating the development of a new member management system, and the creation of a new website to better connect and support members.

ACT Parents expenditure remains aligned with the priorities outlined in our Strategic Plan and consistent with the objectives of the ACT Education Directorate Deed of Grant.

Full financial details are provided in the attached financial statements.



08 August 2025

TAILORED ACCOUNTS

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a 1st floor - Mode 3, U.127
24 Lonsdale St, City, ACT 2612

tailoredaccounts.com.au

Mrs Veronica Elliott
Executive Officer
ACT Council of Parents & Citizen Associations
Canberra

Tailored Accounts Independent Audit Report to the members of ACT Council of Parents & Citizens Associations

Reference:
Engagement

A. The Accounts Review Service

Dear Veronica,

I have audited the accompanying financial statements of the ACT Council of Parents & Citizens Associations, which comprises the statement of Balance Sheet as at **30 June 2025** and the Statement of surplus or loss for the year ended **30 June 2025**

Committees' Responsibility for the Financial Report

The P&C committee is responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view of the financial state of the Council.

Responsibility of person conducting audit

My responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on my audit. An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion

Independence

I confirm that I am not a member of the ACT Council of Parents & Citizens Associations and am not related to any member of their committee.

Opinion

I have audited the attached financial statements of the Council.

- a) It is of my expert opinion that the financial statements of the Council are properly drawn up;



So far as to give a true and fair view of the matters required by subsection 72(2) of the Act to be dealt with in the accounts for the financial year reported on; In accordance with the provisions of the Act;

- b) Proper accounting and other records have been kept by the Council
- c) The audit was conducted in accordance with the rules of the Council.

Should you have any enquiries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours Sincerely,



Harry Hoang
Chief Executive Officer
Tailored Accounts



we take multiple dimensions into account



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Profit & Loss Statement

July 2024 To June 2025

ACT Parents

17/27 Mulley St
Holder ACT 2611

ABN: 53 870 517 949

Email: admin@actparents.org.au

Income	
Grant Income	\$250,566.75
Grant One Off	\$325.00
Bank Interest	\$6,792.62
Donations/Sundry	\$1,081.00
Insurance Rebate	\$12,531.96
Memberships	
High Schools & Colleges	\$13,228.79
Primary Schools	\$23,428.24
Pre-Schools	\$139.65
Special Schools	\$291.65
Annual Set Fee	\$2,095.67
Total Memberships	\$39,184.00
Total Income	\$310,481.33
Gross Profit	\$310,481.33
Expenses	
General Expenses	
Audit/Accounting (MYOB)	\$2,328.71
Advertising & Marketing	\$3,360.00
Affiliation Fees	\$3,000.00
Bank Fees	\$59.36
Bookkeeping	\$6,745.00
Depreciation	\$331.00
Dues & Subscriptions	\$5,587.24
Equipment Maintenance/Software	\$411.20
IT & Web Development	\$3,804.52
Insurance	\$935.00
Meetings	\$764.85
Photocopying	\$396.80
Projects	\$113.64
Rent	\$12,199.20
Stationery & Office Supplies	\$308.27
Travel	\$375.80
Total General Expenses	\$40,720.59
Payroll Expenses	
Wages & Salaries	\$234,607.79
Superannuation	\$27,686.16
Workers Comp Insurance	\$2,149.18
Staff & Member Training/Conferences	\$604.09
Provision for LSL	-\$1,396.00
Total Payroll Expenses	\$263,651.22
Total Expenses	\$304,371.81
Operating Profit	\$6,109.52
Net Profit/(Loss)	\$6,109.52

This report includes Year-End Adjustments.

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Balance Sheet

As of June 2025

ACT Parents

17/27 Mulley St
Holder ACT 2611

ABN: 53 870 517 949

Email: admin@actparents.org.au

Assets	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
Westpac Operating	\$9,089.34
Westpac High Interest	\$165,121.07
Westpac Debit	\$352.09
TD June 2024	\$100,000.00
Total Bank Accounts	\$274,562.50
Other Current Assets	
Prepaid Expenses	\$7,837.50
Total Other Current Assets	\$7,837.50
Total Current Assets	\$282,400.00
Non-Current Assets	
Office Equipment	
Office Equipment At Cost	\$8,809.04
Accum. Depr. Office Equipment	-\$8,809.04
Total Office Equipment	\$0.00
Software	
Software at Cost	\$9,900.00
Accum Depr. Software	-\$331.00
Total Software	\$9,569.00
Total Non-Current Assets	\$9,569.00
Total Assets	\$291,969.00
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
Trade Creditors	\$1,920.00
Accrued Expenses	\$2,933.54
Total Other Current Liabilities	\$4,853.54
Auspiced Funds	
Auspiced Funds LGC P&C	\$6,646.88
Payroll Liabilities	
Long Service Leave	\$7,611.00
Total Payroll Liabilities	\$7,611.00
Total Current Liabilities	\$19,111.42
Total Liabilities	\$19,111.42
Net Assets	\$272,857.58
Equity	
Retained Earnings	\$266,748.06
Current Year Surplus/Deficit	\$6,109.52
Total Equity	\$272,857.58

This report includes Year-End Adjustments.

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