

## Academies Australasia Group Limited ('AKG') (ACN 000 003 725)

## **CORPORATE GOVERNANCE STATEMENT**

The Board of Academies Australasia Group Limited ('the Company') endorses the Australian Securities Exchange ('ASX') Corporate Governance Principles and Recommendations, (4<sup>th</sup> Edition) ('Recommendations'). This Corporate Governance Statement outlines the Company's governance practices and is prepared in accordance with the Recommendations.

Given the size of the Company and its subsidiaries ('the Group'), it is neither reasonable nor practicable to comply with certain Recommendations. This statement identifies and explains where the Company has not complied fully with the eight principles stated in the Recommendations during the year ended 30 June 2023 and to the date of this statement.

This Corporate Governance Statement was approved by the Board on 1 September 2023.

At that date, the Board comprised the following Directors:

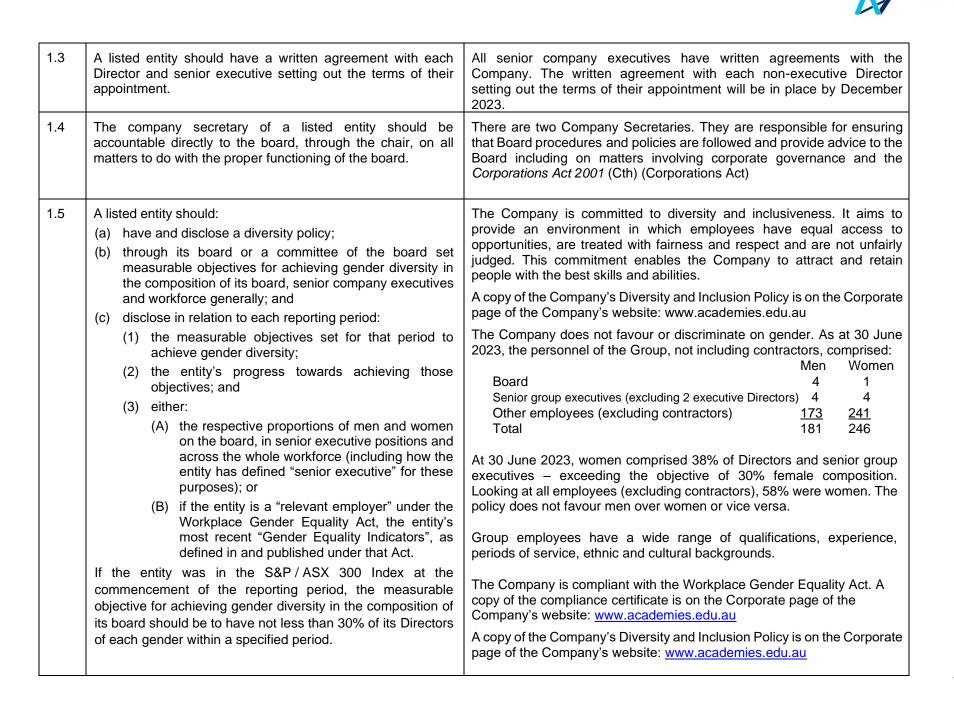
- Dr John Lewis Schlederer	Chairman, Non-Executive (Appointed 21 August 2009, 14 years)
- Christopher Elmore Campbell	Group Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (Appointed 1 July 1996, 27 years 2 months)
- Chiang Meng Heng	Non-Executive (Appointed 15 February 2000, 23 years 6 months)
- Gabriela Del Carmen Rodriguez Naranjo	Deputy Group Managing Director and Group Chief Operating Officer (Appointed Alternate Director 10 May 2011 to 31 December 2013. Executive Director from 21 October 2013 (12 years 3 month)
- Sartaj Hans	Independent, Non-Executive (Appointed 19 October 2016 (6 years 10 months))

Details of the Directors and Senior Company Executives are provided in the Company's 2023 Annual Report, a copy of which is on the Corporate page of the Company's website: <a href="http://www.academies.edu.au">www.academies.edu.au</a>



No.	Principles and Recommendations	Notes
Princip	ble 1 – Lay solid foundations for Management and oversight	
1.1	<ul> <li>A listed entity should disclose a board charter setting out:</li> <li>(a) the respective roles and responsibilities of its board and management; and</li> </ul>	The Board has adopted a Board Charter that formalises the functions and responsibilities of the Board (including the process for evaluating the performance of the Board and its Committees).
	(b) those matters expressly reserved to the board and those delegated to management.	The Board operates in accordance with its Charter and the Company's Constitution. The Board takes responsibility for the performance of the Company and for developing and implementing appropriate corporate governance practices.
		The Board Charter requires that the Board comprise Directors with a range of experience, expertise, skills and diversity relevant to the Company and its business. The responsibilities of the Board and the authoritydelegated to the Managing Director are set out in the Board Charter.
		The Board Charter also provides that a Director can seek independent advice or other professional advice at the Company's expense after receiving approval from the Chair.
		<ul> <li>The Board has established the following Committees to assist it in discharging its functions:</li> <li>Audit and Risk Committee; and</li> <li>Remuneration Committee.</li> </ul>
		Each Committee has its own charter describing its role and responsibilities, composition and membership requirements. The Board and Committee Charters are reviewed every year or as required.
		A copy of the Board Charter and the Charters of each Committee are available on the Corporate page of the Company's website: <u>www.academies.edu.au</u>





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1.6	<ul> <li>A listed entity should:</li> <li>(a) have and disclose a process for periodically evaluating the performance of the board, its committees and individual Directors; and</li> <li>(b) disclose for each reporting period whether a performance evaluation has been undertaken in accordance with that process or in respect of that period.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>At least annually, the Board conducts reviews of its performance, policies and practices. Reviews include examination and evaluation of: <ul> <li>the effectiveness and composition of the Board, including the required mix of skills, experience, diversity and other qualities that the Directors collectively bring to the Board;</li> <li>the professional development of Directors to enable each to develop and maintain the skills and knowledge needed for the effective performance of their role;</li> <li>the Company's strategic direction, objectives, and corporate governance practices;</li> <li>the objectives and achievements of the Group Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer; and</li> <li>the organisational structure and succession planning for the Group Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer and for the Board itself.</li> </ul> </li> <li>In addition, the Chairman discusses their individual performance with Directors throughout the year, and the Group Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer reviews the performance of the Deputy Group Managing Director and Group Chief Operating Officer and senior group executives. <i>['Senior group executives' refers to the Heads of the Company's colleges, the Group Finance Manager and Deputy Group Finance Manager]</i></li> <li>The Board reviewed its performance and the performance of its committees and individual Directors in respect of the year ended 30 June 2023.</li> </ul>
1.7	<ul> <li>A listed entity should:</li> <li>(a) have and disclose a process for periodically evaluating the performance of its senior company executives at least once every reporting period; and</li> <li>(b) disclose at each reporting period whether a performance evaluation has been undertaken in accordance with that process during or in respect of that period.</li> </ul>	The Remuneration Committee reviewed the performance of its senior company executives during the reporting period.



2.1	The board of a listed entity should:	Currently, there is no separately appointed Nominations Committee. The
	(a) have a nomination Committee which:	Board undertakes all the functions of a Nominations Committee. The Board nominates new Directors to fill occasional vacancies. When
	<ol> <li>has at least three members, a majority of whom are independent Directors; and</li> </ol>	considering the appointment of a new Director, the Board follows the Recommendations for a Nominations Committee, as outlined below.
	2) is chaired by an independent Director,	Procedure for Selection and Appointment of New Directors
	and disclose:	The structure of the Board is determined having regard to the following
	3) the charter of the committee:	criteria:
	4) the members of the committee; and	<ul> <li>The Chairman should be a Non-executive Director, preferable independent.</li> </ul>
	5) as at the end of each reporting period, the number of times the Committee met throughout the period	<ul> <li>A majority of the Board should be Non-executive Director preferably independent.</li> </ul>
	and the individual attendances of the members at those meetings; or	<ul> <li>The roles of Chairman and Group Managing Director shou not be exercised by the same individual.</li> </ul>
	(b) if it does not have a nomination Committee, disclose that fact and the processes it employs to address board succession issues and to ensure that the board has the appropriate balance of skills, knowledge, experience, independence and diversity to enable it to discharge its	<ul> <li>The Board should comprise Directors with an appropriation range of qualifications and expertise.</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>The Company should try to meet the requirements of the AS Diversity Guidelines.</li> </ul>
	duties and responsibilities effectively.	Selection and appointment of directors
		The following principles and guidelines are adhered to in the selection and appointment of new Directors:
		<ul> <li>The Board is required to have a broad range of skill experience, diversity, and commercial expertise to ensure the it discharges its mandate effectively. Therefore, when a individual is nominated for consideration as a Director, the are evaluated on their skills, experience, diversity and ho they would complement or enhance the Board's effectivenes</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>The composition of the Board needs to be conducive to makin decisions expediently and in the best interests of the Compar as a whole.</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>Individuals being considered for appointment as non-executiv Directors are required to provide the Board with details of the other commitments and an indication of the time involved Candidates must be able to satisfy the Board that they w</li> </ul>



		have sufficient time to undertake their duties. The Board undertakes independent checks of the details of individuals being considered for appointment to the Board.
		<ul> <li>The Constitution of the Company provides that the Board may at any time appoint a person to be a Director. That person shall hold office until the end of the next general meeting and shall be eligible for election at that meeting.</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>The Constitution of the Company provides that at every general meeting one-third of the Directors or, if the number is not a multiple of three, then the number nearest to one-third, shall retire from office and be eligible for re-election.</li> </ul>
		The Company provides detailed information according to the Recommendations to assist shareholders in their decision whether to elect a Director standing for election or re-election.
2.2	A listed entity should have and disclose a board skills matrix setting out the mix of skills that the board currently has or is looking to achieve in its membership.	The Board seeks to ensure it has the appropriate mix of skills, knowledge and experience to effectively guide the Company and assist Management achieve the strategic objectives set by the Board.
		As part of this process the Board has prepared and considered a Board skills matrix. The Board's skills matrix summarises the current skills and diversity of the Board and assists the Board in identifying any gaps in its current skills and diversity.
		The Board considers that the mix of skills required for it to properly perform its function is as follows:
		executive and non-executive Director experience
		<ul> <li>experience or knowledge in the provision of training and education services in Australia and overseas, especially in Asia</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>corporate and business leadership, including growing enterprises</li> </ul>
		corporate governance
		independent strategic thinking
		<ul> <li>subject matter expertise, including:         <ul> <li>financial and capital management</li> <li>corporate financing</li> <li>mergers and acquisitions</li> <li>risk management</li> <li>marketing and delivery of training and education services</li> </ul> </li> </ul>



	Currently the Board considers that there are no significant gaps in the skills available to it from the directors collectively.
	The Board annually reviews this list of skills and the extent to which the factors contribute the skills listed.
<ul><li>A listed entity should disclose:</li><li>(a) the names of the Directors considered by the board to be independent Directors;</li></ul>	The Board regularly assesses whether each Director is independent in accordance with the Recommendations and, when assessing a Director's independence, materiality is assessed on a case by case basis having regard to the individual circumstances of the Director. Accordingly:
(b) if a Director has an interest, position, affiliation or relationship of the type described in box 2.3 but the board is of the opinion that it does not compromise the independence of the Director, the nature of the interest	<i>Dr John Lewis Schlederer (Chairman)</i> is considered to be Non-executive but not independent because he has a relevant interest of 5% or more in the shares of the Company
position or relationship in question and an explanation of why the board is of that opinion; and	<i>Chiang Meng Heng</i> , Non-executive Director, is not considered to be independent as he has a relevant interest of 5% or more in the Company's shares.
(c) the length of service of each Director.	<i>Christopher Elmore Campbell</i> , Group Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, is not considered to be independent as he is a Senior Executive of the Group and has a relevant interest of 5% or more in the Company's shares.
	<i>Gabriela Del Carmen Rodriguez Naranjo</i> , Deputy Group Managing Director and Group Chief Operating Officer, is not considered to be independent as she is a Senior Executive of the Group.
	Sartaj Hans, Non-executive Director is considered to be independent.
	There is therefore, only one independent Director.
A majority of the board of a listed entity should be independent Directors.	The Company does not meet the Recommendation that there be a majority of independent Directors, as there is only one such Director. However, the Board confirms that nothing has come to its attention that would cause it to question current procedures and governance for a company of its business, structure and size. The performance of each of the non-independent Directors has led the Board to conclude that each Director acts consistently in the best interests of the Company.
	<ul> <li>(a) the names of the Directors considered by the board to be independent Directors;</li> <li>(b) if a Director has an interest, position, affiliation or relationship of the type described in box 2.3 but the board is of the opinion that it does not compromise the independence of the Director, the nature of the interest, position or relationship in question and an explanation of why the board is of that opinion; and</li> <li>(c) the length of service of each Director.</li> </ul>

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2.5	The chair of the board of a listed entity should be an independent Director and, in particular, should not be the same person as the CEO of the entity.	The Chair of the Board is Dr John Lewis Schlederer, who is considered to be Non-executive but not independent because he has a relevant interest of 5% or more in the shares of the Company. In accordance with the Recommendations, the roles of the Chairman and the Group Managing Director are exercised by separate individuals.
2.6	A listed entity should have a program for inducting new Directors and for periodically reviewing whether there is a need for existing Directors to undertake professional development to maintain the skills and knowledge needed to perform their role as Directors effectively.	The Board Charter provides for new Directors to be provided with information about the Company as well as the continuing education of ongoing Directors to allow them to perform their role as Directors effectively. The Company Secretary also has the responsibility to help organise and facilitate the induction and professional development of the Directors as set out in the Board Charter.
Princi	ole 3 – Instil a culture of acting lawfully, ethically and responsibly	
3.1	A listed entity should articulate and disclose its values.	Vision:       Recognition as a provider of quality education         Mission:       To equip learners with knowledge, skills and aspirations for employment and further learning         Values:       Integrity       - Honesty and strong moral principles         Respect       - Admiration arising from abilities, qualities, or achievement         Impact       - Having a strong effect on others         Resilience       - Capacity to recover quickly from difficulties
3.2	<ul> <li>A listed entity should:</li> <li>(a) have and disclose a code of conduct for its Directors, senior company executives and employees; and</li> <li>(b) ensure that the board or a committee of the board is informed of any material breaches of that code.</li> </ul>	The Company has a Code of Conduct to guide the Board and Senior Company Executives as to the practices necessary to maintain confidence in the Company and in the accountability of individuals for reporting and investigating reports of unethical practices. The Company and its Directors, managers, employees and contractors are expected to act with high standards of honesty, integrity, independent judgement, fairness, and equity; striving at all times to enhance the reputation and performance of the Group as a whole.

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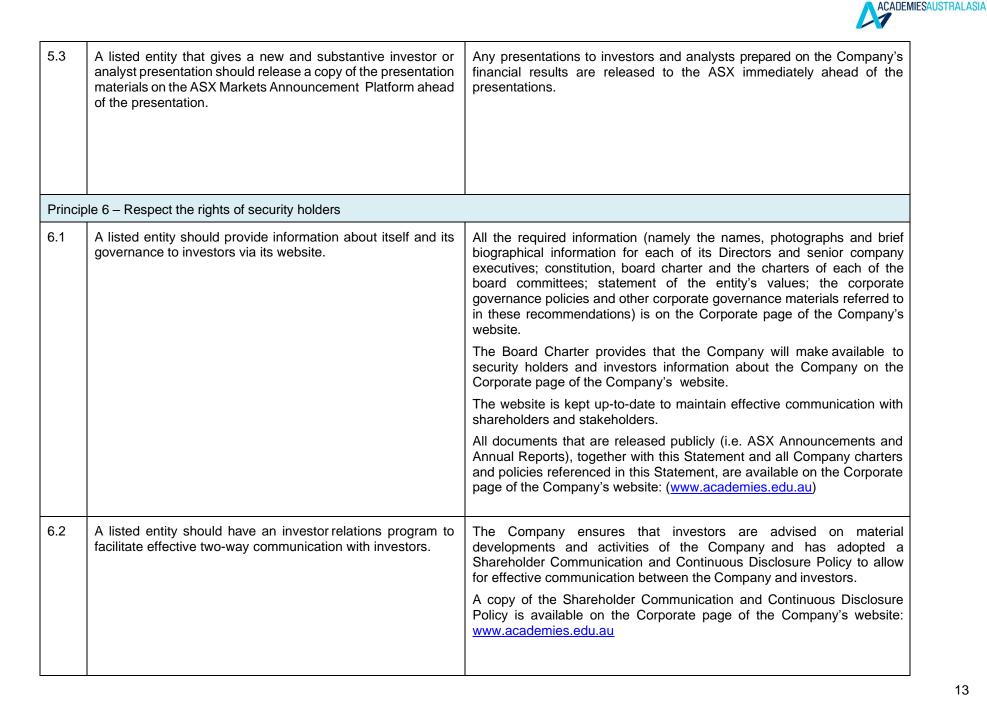
		A copy of the Code of Conduct is available on the Corporate page of the Company's website: <u>www.academies.edu.au</u> The Company has a Securities Trading Policy about trading in the Company's securities. A copy of the Securities Trading Policy is available on the Corporate page of the Company's website: <u>www.academies.edu.au</u>
3.3	<ul> <li>A listed entity should:</li> <li>(a) have and disclose a whistleblower policy; and</li> <li>(b) ensure that the board or a committee of the board is informed of any material incidents reported under that policy.</li> </ul>	The Board has adopted a Whistleblower Protection Policy, which is available on the Corporate page of the Company's website: <u>www.academies.edu.au</u> Material incidents are reported to the Board.
3.4	<ul> <li>A listed entity should:</li> <li>(a) have and disclose an anti-bribery and corruption policy; and</li> <li>(b) ensure that the board or a committee of the board is informed of any material breaches of that policy.</li> </ul>	The Board has adopted an Anti-Bribery and Corruption Policy, which is available on the Corporate page of the Company's website: <u>www.academies.edu.au</u> Material breaches of this policy are reported to the Board.
Princi	ole 4 – Safeguard the integrity of corporate reports	
4.1	The board of a listed entity should: (a) have an audit committee which:	The Board has established an Audit and Risk Committee comprising Sartaj Hans, Dr John Lewis Schlederer and Chiang Meng Heng. The Committee is chaired by Sartaj Hans.
	<ol> <li>has at least three members, all of whom are non-executive Directors and a majority of whom are independent Directors; and</li> </ol>	Details of the qualifications, skills and expertise of the Directors appointed to the Audit and Risk Committee and their attendance at meetings of the committee are included in the Directors' Report in the Company's Annual
	<ol> <li>is chaired by an independent Director, who is notthe chair of the board,</li> </ol>	report. The Company has complied with two of the three Recommendations: that
	and disclose:	there be a minimum of three members and that the Chairman is not also
	3) the charter of the committee;	the Chairman of the Board. However, the Committee does not have a majority of independent Directors.
	<ol> <li>the relevant qualifications and experience of the members of the committee; and</li> </ol>	The Company has consistently complied with the Recommendation that all members of the Committee be non-executive.
	5) in relation to each reporting period, the number of times the committee met throughout the	In the year to 30 June 2023, the Group Managing Director, Deputy Group Managing Director, Group Finance Manager, Deputy Group Finance

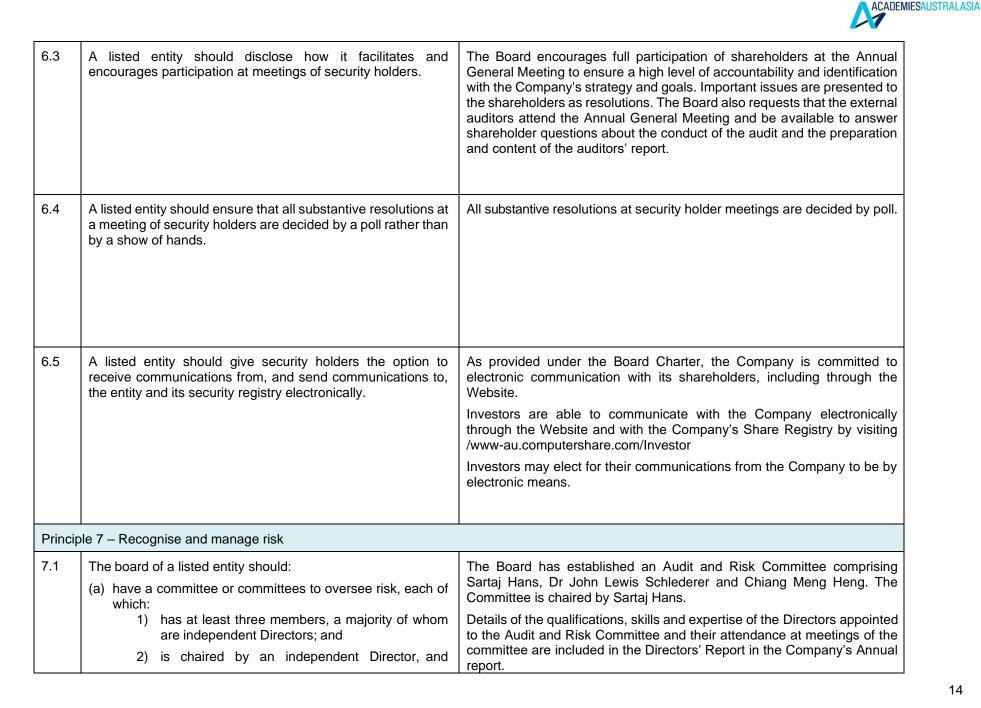


	period and the individual attendances of the members at those meetings; or	Manager and external auditors attended Audit and Risk Committee meetings at the invitation of the Committee.
	(b) if it does not have an audit committee, disclose that fact and the processes it employs that independently verify and safeguard the integrity of its corporate reporting, including the processes for the appointment and removalof the external auditor and the rotation of the audit engagement partner.	The Audit and Risk Committee's Charter is available on the Corporate page of the Company's website: <u>www.academies.edu.au</u>
4.2	The board of a listed entity should, before it approves the entity's financial statements for a financial period, receive from its CEO and CFO a declaration that, in their opinion,	The Board is committed to ensuring the financial statements of the Company represent a true and fair view of the Company's financial position and performance.
	the financial records of the entity have been properly maintained and that the financial statements comply with the appropriate accounting standards and give a true and fair	In the Board Charter, the Board is responsible for approving and monitoring financial and other reporting of the Company.
	appropriate accounting standards and give a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of the entity and that the opinion has been formed on the basis of a sound system of risk management and internal control which is operating effectively.	The Board has established the Audit and Risk Committee to assist the Board with the quality and reliability of financial information prepared by the Company and monitor an appropriate internal control framework.
		Prior to Board approval of half year and annual financial reports, the CEO and CFO must provide the Board with declarations required under section 295A of the Corporations Act and Recommendation 4.2 of the ASX Principles and Recommendations.
		For the financial year ended 30 June 2023, the CEO and CFO made a declaration in accordance with section 295A of the Corporations Act. The declaration was formed on the basis of a sound system of risk management and internal control which is operating effectively. An equivalent declaration was made for the half year ended 31 December 2022.
4.3	A listed entity should disclose its process to verify the integrity of any periodic corporate report it releases to the market that is not audited or reviewed by an external auditor.	Periodic corporate reports - Half year and Annual Reports are reviewed or audited by the auditor before release to the market. Other reports - Directors' report, Chairman and Group Managing Director and CEO report and Chairman's address are not audited, but are approved by the Board.



Princip	ble 5 – Make timely and balanced disclosure	
5.1	A listed entity should have and disclose a written policy for complying with its continuous disclosure obligations under the Listing Rules 3.1	The Company recognises that shareholders must receive relevant information in a timely manner in order to be able to properly and effectively exercise their rights.
		The Company aims to ensure that shareholders are informed of all major developments affecting the Company. Information is communicated to shareholders on a regular basis through continuous disclosures and half yearly and annual reports. The Board ensures that these reports include all relevant information about the operations of the Company, changes in the state of affairs of the Company and information on future developments.
		All documents that are released publicly (i.e. ASX Announcements and Annual Reports), together with this Statement and all Company charters and policies referenced in this Statement, are available on the Corporate page of the Company's website: www.academies.edu.au.
		The Board has adopted a Shareholder Communication and Continuous Disclosure Policy and is committed to complying with all continuous disclosure obligations imposed by the ASX Listing Rules and otherwise as required by law.
		A copy of the Shareholder Communication and Continuous Disclosure Policy is available on the Corporate page of the Company's website: <u>www.academies.edu.au</u>
5.2	A listed entity should ensure that its board receives copies of all material market announcements promptly after they have been made.	Directors receive copies of all ASX announcements promptly after they are made.







	<ul> <li>disclose:</li> <li>3) the charter of the committee;</li> <li>4) the members of the committee; and</li> <li>5) as at end of each reporting period, the number of times the committee met throughout the period and the individual attendances of the members at those meetings; or</li> <li>does not have a risk committee or committees that</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>The Company has complied with two of the three Recommendations: that there be a minimum of three members and that the Chairman is not also the Chairman of the Board. However, the Committee does not have a majority of independent Directors.</li> <li>The Company has consistently complied with the Recommendation that all members of the Committee be non-executive.</li> <li>The functions of the Audit and Risk Committee encompass: <ul> <li>Financial reporting</li> <li>Financial, legal and operational risk management</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
en	isfy (a) above, disclose that fact and the processes it ploys for overseeing the entity's risk management nework.	<ul> <li>Internal financial controls</li> <li>External audit</li> <li>The Audit and Risk Committee's Charter is available on the Corporate page of the Company's website: www.academies.edu.au</li> </ul>
(a) rev an tha ap (b) dis	ard or a committee of the board should: iew the entity's risk management framework at least nually to satisfy itself that it continues to be sound and t the entity is operating with due regard to the risk betite set by the board; and close, in relation to each reporting period, whether th a review has taken place.	The Board has established policies for the oversight and management of material business risks. The Audit and Risk Committee assists the Board in carrying out this function. Material business risks that have the potential to adversely impact the Company's operations are addressed, comprising: a. Financial risk b. Strategic and operational risk c. Legal risk d. Cyber Procedures exist to monitor risk, with ultimate reporting to the Board, through either the Audit and Risk Committee for financial and business risk or the Group Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer for operational risk. The Board acknowledges that the policies are designed to provide reasonable but not absolute protection against error and irregularity and that they are intended to identify control issues that require the attention of the Board or Audit and Risk Committee.



7.3	<ul> <li>A listed entity should disclose:</li> <li>(a) if it has an internal audit function, how the function is structured and what role it performs; and</li> <li>(b) if it does not have an internal audit function, that fact and the processes it employs for evaluating and continually improving the effectiveness of its governance, risk management and internal control processes.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>The Company has internal control processes to ensure that information presented to senior management and the Board is relevant, accurate and timely. The control processes include, among other things: <ul> <li>annual audit and half year review by the external auditors;</li> <li>management review of the financial reports and internal control environment;</li> <li>comparative analyses and measurement of business performance; and</li> <li>monthly review of operational and financial performance compared to budget, forecasts and other expectations.</li> </ul> </li> <li>The Board reviews the adequacy and implementation of the risk management and internal compliance and control systems on an annual basis. There is currently no internal audit function due to the size of the Group. The Board requires and facilitates the continuous evaluation and improvement of the Company's risk management and internal control processes. The qualifications, experience and performance of personnel involved in financial processes and controls are assessed at least annually. As the Group grows, consideration will be given to establishing an internal audit function – either staffed in-house or on contract with an external firm.</li> </ul>
7.4	A listed entity should disclose whether it has any material exposure to environmental or social risks and, if it does, how it manages or intends to manage those risks.	The Board considers that the Company does not have any material exposure to environmental or social risks.
Princip	ble 8 – Remunerate fairly and responsibly	
8.1	The board of a listed entity should: (a) have a remuneration committee which:	The Board has established a Remuneration Committee comprising Dr John Lewis Schlederer, Chiang Meng Heng and Christopher Elmore Campbell. The Committee is chaired by Dr John Lewis Schlederer.
	<ol> <li>has at least three members, a majority of whom are independent Directors; and</li> <li>is chaired by an independent Director, and</li> </ol>	Details of the members of the Remuneration Committee and their attendance at meetings of the Committee are included in the Directors' Report in the Company's Annual Report.
	<ul><li>disclose</li><li>3) the charter of the committee;</li><li>4) the members of the committee; and</li></ul>	The structure of the Committee is consistent with the Recommendations in that it comprises at least three members. However, there are no independent Directors and therefore, fails the independent Chair and majority independent members Recommendation.



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	<ol> <li>as at the end of each reporting period, the number of times the committee met throughout the period and the individual attendances of the members at those meetings; or</li> </ol>	A copy of the Remuneration Committee Charter is available on the Corporate page of the Company's website: <u>www.academies.edu.au</u>
	(b) if it does not have a remuneration committee, disclose that fact and the processes it employs for setting the level and composition of remuneration for Directors and senior company executives and ensuring that such remuneration isappropriate and not excessive.	
8.2	A listed entity should separately disclose its policies and practices regarding the remuneration of non-executive Directors and the remuneration of executive Directors and other senior company executives.	All the Non-executive Directors and Senior Company Executives are presently on fixed remuneration arrangements.
		The remuneration of each Director (both executive and non- executive) is disclosed in the annual report.
8.3	A listed entity which has an equity-based remuneration scheme should:	There is no scheme for retirement benefits for non-executive Directors, other than statutory requirements.
	<ul> <li>(a) have a policy on whether participants are permitted to enter into transactions (whether through the use of derivatives or otherwise) which limit the economic risk of participating in the scheme; and</li> </ul>	
	(b) disclose that policy or a summary of it.	

1 September 2023