



Australian Institute for
Disaster Resilience

Disaster Resilience Education Strategy Group

Terms of Reference

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This Terms of Reference document is informed by the strategic document [*Disaster Resilience Education: Young Australians for a disaster resilient future*](#)

Context

Established in 2015, the Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience (AIDR) is a partnership between the Australian Government Department of Home Affairs, the National Council for Fire and Emergency Services (AFAC), the Australian Red Cross and the Bushfire and Natural Hazards Cooperative Research Centre (BNHCRC).

The AIDR Education for Young People program promotes disaster resilience education for all young Australians, in schools and other educational settings. The program supports initiatives which enable young people to participate in resilient communities, applying knowledge and skills to reduce risk and take protective action before, during and after an emergency or disaster.

The Education for Young People Program functions at two levels: The Disaster Resilience Education Strategy Group (DRESG) and the Disaster Resilient Australia-New Zealand School Education Network (DRANZSEN).

DRESG provides leadership for the Education for Young People program by identifying strategies and opportunities to support educators learning and teaching about disaster resilience. DRESG provides leadership and direction for DRANZSEN, promoting collaborative partnerships between emergency service agencies, the education sector and others to enable young people to participate in resilient communities, working together to reduce the risk of disaster.

Aims of DRESG

1. To advocate for disaster resilience education (DRE) in all Australian schools and other educational settings
2. To establish and communicate a shared understanding of disaster resilience education with teachers and learners, aligned with contemporary practice, research evidence and policy.
3. To support and promote effective learning partnerships between emergency service agencies (and related organisations) and the education sector.
4. To support and promote the participation of children and young people in community action for disaster risk reduction and resilience.
5. To support and promote the protection of children before, during and after an emergency or disaster.



Review

These Terms of Reference are effective from January 2020. Subsequent to annual reviews, it will be ongoing until terminated by agreement between the parties.

Membership

1. DRESG membership is inclusive of representatives from education authorities, community engagement professionals from state and territory emergency service agencies, research institutions, non-government agencies and co-opted specialists, ensuring a balance across jurisdictions and sectors. DRESG is free to propose additional permanent or ad hoc members from other relevant and interested agencies and specialists as necessary to achieve the aims of the group.
2. Membership of the group will be geographically inclusive.
3. AIDR will provide a secretariat for the group.

Membership term

Members of DRESG will be appointed for two (2) year terms and may be reappointed for up to three (3) terms.

Organisation

1. DRESG will aim to meet face-to-face at least once a year.
2. DRESG will maintain out-of-session contact through agreed communication channels.
3. AIDR will establish an Education for Young People strategic plan that is refreshed annually; DRESG will contribute to this plan.
4. DRESG can form working groups as required.

Responsibilities

1. The AIDR secretariat is responsible for convening meetings and/or other events as required.
2. DRESG will report to the AIDR Executive Director.
3. DRESG members are responsible for briefing relevant organisational networks.

Resourcing

Any costs involved in participating in the group meetings and/or other events will be borne by participants or their organisations unless otherwise agreed in advance with the AIDR Executive Director.

Quorum

A meeting quorum will be six (6) members of the group.

Voting

Decisions will be made by consensus (i.e. members are satisfied with the decision even though it may not be their first choice).

Submission of new business

All correspondence will be submitted to the AIDR secretariat.

Distribution of documentation

1. Members will be supplied with complete, accurate and meaningful information in a timely manner.
2. Meeting agendas and minutes, including the preparation of agendas, supporting papers, meeting notes and information, will be provided by the AIDR secretariat.
3. Minutes will be distributed within one week of meetings.

Reporting

1. Individuals will be responsible for reporting to the agencies or organisations they represent and for communicating views and opinions of those agencies and organisations to the group.
2. The secretariat will facilitate two-way communication between DRESG and AIDR.
3. Minutes will be distributed within one week of meetings.

Amendment, modification or variation

These Terms of Reference may be amended, varied or modified after consultation and agreement by DRESG and ratification by AIDR.