# TABLE OF CONTENTS

**INTRODUCTION**
- Common and Agreed National Goals for Schooling in Australia

**PART 1**
**NATIONAL OVERVIEW**

**Chapter 1**
**HIGHLIGHTS OF 1998**
- Revision of the national goals for schooling
- Progress towards national benchmarks for literacy and numeracy
- Vocational education and training in schools

**Chapter 2**
**THE NATIONAL GOALS FOR SCHOOLING**
- Review of the national goals
- The national goals and this report
- Focus areas for 1998
- System and school objectives and priorities
- The Commonwealth's objectives for schooling

**Chapter 3**
**MEETING THE NATIONAL GOALS FOR SCHOOLING: FOCUS AREAS**

**Literacy**
- National benchmarks
- Implementing the national literacy plan
- The results of State assessment programs

**Citizenship education**
- Discovering Democracy
- Multicultural education
- Parliamentary education
- Anti-discrimination activities

**The arts**
- Student participation in the arts
- Displaying achievement in the arts
- Measuring achievement in the arts
- Significant developments in arts education

**Vocational education and training in schools**
- National developments in 1998
- Participation in VET in Schools programs
- Assessment, certification and accreditation of VET in Schools
- Accreditation and certification arrangements in States and Territories
- Evaluation of VET in Schools programs

**Provision for socioeconomically disadvantaged students**
- Definition
- Making special provision
- Measuring progress

**Chapter 4**
**MEETING THE NATIONAL GOALS FOR SCHOOLING: OTHER AREAS**

**Skills goals**
Numeracy 49
Languages other than English 61
**Excellence goals** 65
Teacher supply and demand 65
Professional development and teacher education 66
Action on Paedophilia 70
Drug education and school drug prevention 73
**Equity goals** 77
Provision for Indigenous students 77
Implementing the Gender Equity Framework 84
Provision for students with disabilities 86
Provision for rural and isolated students 88
Provision for students from a language background other than English 90
Funding equity programs 91

Chapter 5  **Retrospect and Prospect** 93
Enrolment patterns 93
Teacher staffing 94
Some apparent trends 94
Assessment and reporting 95
Vocational education and training 95
Schooling for socioeconomically disadvantaged students 96
Indigenous students 96

PART 2  **STATE/TERRITORY AND COMMONWEALTH REPORTS** 99
Chapter 6  **NEW SOUTH WALES** 101
Chapter 7  **VICTORIA** 109
Chapter 8  **QUEENSLAND** 115
Chapter 9  **SOUTH AUSTRALIA** 123
Chapter 10  **WESTERN AUSTRALIA** 131
Chapter 11  **TASMANIA** 139
Chapter 12  **NORTHERN TERRITORY** 145
Chapter 13  **AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY** 155
Chapter 14  **COMMONWEALTH** 167

PART 3  **APPENDICES** 183
Appendix 1  Statistics 185
The context of Australian schooling 185
Schools and students 186
International comparisons 204
Teachers and teaching 207
Resourcing 213
Equity 217

Appendix 2  **Publications** 221
LIST OF TABLES 229
LIST OF FIGURES 235
GLOSSARY 237