

## What is Palnet?

*Palnet* is an online professional learning network, custom designed for Australian principals, school leaders and those who aspire to lead. You don't need to be a school leader to be part of *palnet* – anyone with an interest in education, in progressing their professional development, or who seeks to build their leadership capacity will gain value from being part of *palnet*.



*Palnet* has been developed for principals by principals. Over 90 of Australia's leading principals and educational thinkers worked together to develop a personal and professional development space that is uniquely, profession led. *Palnet* crosses state, territory, sector and level-of-school divisions to create an online network driven by the interests and needs of school leaders.

*Palnet* was formally launched in February 2012 and has over 1540 school leaders registered, increasing at a rate of over 9 people per day on average. The most valued components of *palnet* are *palnet groups*, *palnet Events* and *pal2pal* mentoring.

*Palnet* groups are the heart of *palnet* - facilitated by recognised leaders in Australian education to support professional conversations and collaborative problem solving; they provide valuable support and resources for all school leaders. Registrants to *palnet* can join existing *palnet* groups or create their own public or private groups. With 46 groups - there are plenty to choose from.

The following core groups are focussed on national and local educational reform issues. There are already a substantial community of school leaders with similar interests in these groups, reviewing and contributing to conversations on the issues important to them and seeking ideas from their peers.

Group Name	% of users	Group Name	% of users
Australian Curriculum	52	School autonomy and leadership	34
Change Leadership	52	Social Inclusion	19
Leading Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education	15	Special Education	19
Leading ICT	44	Standards	28
Rural and Remote	16	Using & Reporting Data	35

## What do palnet users think about palnet?

*"Palnet embodies the future of educational leadership. Exciting, inspiring, the new undiscovered country of networking success. Our next generation of leaders will evolve on Palnet."*

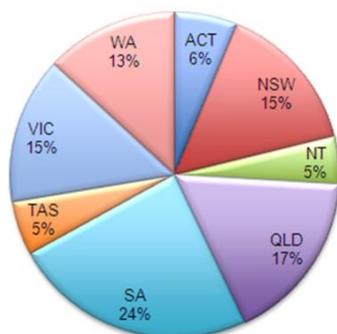
*"The opportunity to interact with other leaders who understand the pressures, workload and stresses while finding a work/life balance."*

*"As a newly appointed senior leader I like the idea of being able to access information from a pool of widely experienced leaders."*

## Who uses palnet?

As at June 2012, there are 1544 *palnet* users from all sectors, states & territories & levels of schooling.

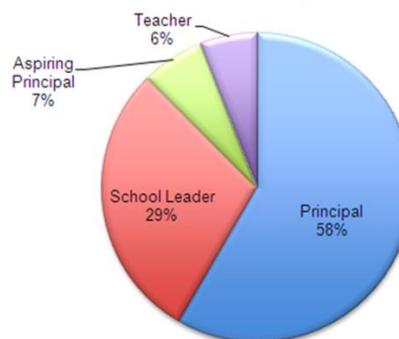
Palnet Users by State & Territory



as at 16 May 2012



Palnet Users by Role



as at 16 May 2012



## How can I use palnet?

- **Your networking online** – Create or bring your network online to complement your face to face group networking and support communities of learning with online conversation
- **Your own professional development** – a quick way to find resources and commentary from other school leaders on resources and their value to contemporary education and Australian issues. PalEvents brings internationally recognised educational leadership thinkers and researchers to your computer enabling you to hear firsthand the latest thinking and ask the questions that enable you to put it into practice
- **A source of stimulus material and resources** – use palnet for planning leadership and professional development processes in schools – borrow the ideas and suggestions of others or ask for support in what you specifically want to achieve from your peer school leaders
- **Problem solving and decision making** – palnet can connect you to your peers in the field regardless of time and place. Palnet members can support each other through private and public posts and via pal2pal mentoring.
- **Find colleagues who share your interests** – a place to find your own peers who think like you do and become your own personal professional support network
- **Explore research in practice** – find peers who have translated specific research into practice for ideas, discussion or mentoring

## How can you find out about palnet?

Go to [www.palnet.edu.au](http://www.palnet.edu.au) or contact the *palnet* team on [palnet@pa.edu.au](mailto:palnet@pa.edu.au)

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