

ANNUAL REPORT 2016

MISSINGSCHOOL INCORPORATED

INTRODUCTION

Across Australia, thousands of children with serious medical conditions are at home or in hospital, missing school. MissingSchool is dedicated to bridging the educational and social gaps experienced by these kids and, often, their siblings by advocating for continuing connection to their regular school.

As the first organisation in Australia with a primary focus on keeping seriously sick kids connected to their schools, MissingSchool:

-
- *supports families with research, resources, strategies and helpful connections*
 - *raises awareness on the issue to inform the efforts of governments, educators, and health professionals*
 - *researches on embedding systems using best practice models and enabling technology*
 - *raises funds to achieve these objectives*
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MissingSchool takes the view that school is a kid's community. Connection to their community can alleviate the stress and anxiety of illness, promote resilience and optimism, and support seriously sick kids to remain positively engaged in learning and life. This important connection reminds seriously sick kids that there is more to who they are than being sick.

MissingSchool recognises non-negligible school absence for kids relating to illnesses such as: Arthritis, Asthma, Blood Disorders, Brain Injury, Burns, Cancer, Crohn's Disease, Cystic Fibrosis, Diabetes, Eating Disorders, Epilepsy, Heart/Liver/Kidney Disease, Injury and Transplants. MissingSchool will continue to put effort into identifying the range of medical circumstances that lead to significant school absence.



Incorporated in the ACT, MissingSchool is a volunteer-led registered charity, and we are endorsed by the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission as a Deductible Gift Recipient.

SUPPORTING FAMILIES

RESOURCES, STRATEGIES AND HELPFUL CONNECTIONS

FAMILY VOICE FIRST

We are committed to telling the story of sick kids and their families to create change in education and health systems across Australia. In our most critical effort to date, MissingSchool launched Australian-first research at Parliament House in October 2015 and, for the first time, put this mission in front of a nation.

RESOURCES AND STRATEGIES

Progress across the year placed sick kids, their siblings and families at the forefront of our advocacy by:

- producing and launching Australian-first research, *SCHOOL CONNECTION FOR SERIOUSLY SICK KIDS: WHO ARE THEY, HOW DO WE KNOW WHAT WORKS AND WHOSE JOB IS IT?*
- achieving a front-page Canberra Times story, and national media coverage for the launch of our Australian-first research.
- achieving a statement of support from the Prime Minister and the National Children's Commissioner.
- referencing the personal experiences of parent founding members which inspired MissingSchool's inception.
- presenting Darcy Gilmour's plea at the Parliament House media launch based on his experience of school separation through illness and the need for this work.
- presenting the stories of student, Patrick Vann, and his mother, Joanne Chivers, at the Parliament House media launch.
- petitioning with a statement from the Chair and Management Committee members and through question and answers at the media launch.
- achieving a nationally trending media story on the issue and work of MissingSchool through print, radio, and television media coverage.



- representing the issue to the Prime Minister's Office, Ministers for Education and Health and other state and federal politicians.
- advocating through formal submissions.

Links to media articles can be found at Appendix A.

Prime Minister's letter of support can be found at Appendix B.

HELPFUL CONNECTIONS

We continue to maintain the MissingSchool website as a vehicle for communicating our mission, objectives, information and resources.

General subscribers increased from 137 to 283 across the year, without a campaign. Subscribers are people who visit the MissingSchool website and elect to receive information and updates from us by email.

We support our advocacy and outreach efforts by maintaining a Facebook presence. We have not developed a social media campaign, but use the Facebook page to post updates and messages which we advertise through targeted paid advertising. At the end of the reporting period, MissingSchool's Facebook page had 301 likes.

ETHICS

MissingSchool maintains a commitment to ethical approaches in giving seriously sick kids a voice in what matters most to them in their schooling. We do this by protecting the data of our subscribers and interactions with have with kids and families. It means we are often unable to give public recognition to many of the stories we hear.

RAISING AWARENESS

INFORMING GOVERNMENTS, EDUCATORS, AND HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

Following the national launch of *SCHOOL CONNECTION FOR SERIOUSLY SICK KIDS: WHO ARE THEY, HOW DO WE KNOW WHAT WORKS, AND WHOSE JOB IS IT?* MissingSchool ran an awareness raising campaign to government agencies in education and health. MissingSchool acknowledges the support of Dr Andrew Laming, MP, who sponsored the MissingSchool media launch at Parliament House on 12 October, 2015.



REPRESENTATIONS TO COMMONWEALTH, STATE AND TERRITORY POLITICIANS

REPRESENTATIONS MADE THROUGH MEETINGS AND PHONE CALLS

- The Prime Minister's Office – 12/10/2016
- Office of the Commonwealth Minister for Education – 12/10/2016; 22/02/2016
- Office of the Commonwealth Minister for Health – 12/10/2016
- Office of the Leader of the Opposition – 12/10/2016
- Office of the Shadow Minister for Education – 12/10/2016
- Office of the Secretary, Social Policy Caucus Committee – 13/10/2016
- Office of the Chair, Coalition Education Policy Committee – 14/10/2016
- Office of the Minister for Education, NSW – 29/04/2016; 17/06/2016
- Senator Katy Gallagher – 04/06/2016

REPRESENTATIONS MADE THROUGH CORRESPONDENCE

MissingSchool made written representations to Commonwealth and State and Territory politicians with responsibility for education and health portfolios. The list of people contacted can be found at Appendix C.

MissingSchool received responses from all but one state. Responses varied from a simple acknowledgement, to a statement of policies in place. None of the responses answered the critical questions of how many students miss school because of serious illness, nor produced evidence for an evaluated best practice model.

MissingSchool has a strategy in place to follow up each State and Territory.

REPRESENTATIONS TO OTHER PUBLIC OFFICES

- Megan Mitchell, National Children's Commissioner – October, 2015.
- Ms Dianne Gidlin, Chief Executive Officer, Australian Council of State School Organisations, NSW – 29/10/2015
- Mr Ross Fox, Executive Director, The National Catholic Education Commission, NSW – 29/10/2015
- Mr Chris Watt, Federal Secretary, Independent Education Union of Australia, ACT – 29/10/2015
- Ms Colette Colman, Acting Executive Director, The Independent Schools Council of Australia, ACT – 29/10/2015

REPRESENTATIONS TO EDUCATORS AND HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

Representations to and meetings with Commonwealth, State and Territory politicians, included:

- Invitation to become a representative on the national H.E.L.P Alliance Committee – 11/03/2016
- Commonwealth Department of Education and Training – 21/03/2016
- ACT Education and Training Directorate – 28/04/2016
- NSW Department of Education and Minister for Education's Office – 17/06/2016

REPRESENTATIONS THROUGH THE MEDIA

The widespread national media coverage achieved on the launch of *SCHOOL CONNECTION FOR SERIOUSLY SICK KIDS: WHO ARE THEY, HOW DO WE KNOW WHAT WORKS, AND WHOSE JOB IS IT?* was instrumental in having the issue recognised by the Commonwealth government, with a view to galvanising greater attention to the challenge in the states and territories.

The media attention across all major media platforms played an inestimable role in raising awareness of the issue for families, educators, health professionals, and the wider public.

MissingSchool spent months responding to messages from health and education professionals and the public.

REPRESENTATION THROUGH THE DISABILITY EDUCATION REFERENCE GROUP

Since March 2015, MissingSchool has held a place on the ACT Disability Education Reference Group (DERG). We attended quarterly meetings and gave a verbal submission to the DERG on the findings of our Australian-first research. We petitioned the DERG to advocate for an ACT submission on the matter to the Education Council (under Council of Australian Governments).

KEEPING SERIOUSLY SICK KIDS CONNECTED FORUM

MissingSchool began consultation with the ACT Education and Training Directorate for them to host a professional development forum for teachers and school leaders on issues relating to school connection for seriously sick kids.

FORMAL SUBMISSIONS

MissingSchool made the following formal submissions during this reporting period:

- NSW Enquiry into Home Schooling: Submitted by email on 7 August 2014, noting exclusion of home-schooled students from hospital education programs. On 13 July 2015 we received a response to the enquiry advising that the Department's Disability, Learning and Support area "will lead a review to reaffirm procedures in department hospital schools to ensure that all



compulsory school aged in-patient students have access to hospital school programs”.

- ACT Enquiry into Students with Complex Needs and Challenging Behaviours: Submitted on 31 July 2015. MissingSchool attended findings presentation on 18 November, 2015.
- Acknowledgement of personal submissions by MissingSchool parents to the Disability Standards in Education Review. Notification on 03/12/2015.
- Emails and letters sent to Commonwealth, State and Territory political leaders and those with responsibility for education and health matters. This correspondence outlined the issues facing kids who miss non-negligible amounts of school because of serious illness, and attached the report, *SCHOOL CONNECTION FOR SERIOUSLY SICK KIDS: WHO ARE THEY, HOW DO WE KNOW WHAT WORKS, AND WHOSE JOB IS IT?* 12 October – early December 2015.
- Standing Committee on Education and Employment: Current levels of access and attainment for students with disabilities in the school system, and the impact on students' families associated with inadequate levels of support. Submitted on 22 October 2015.
- Presentation to Disability Education Reference Group on the national launch of the report *SCHOOL CONNECTION FOR SERIOUSLY SICK KIDS: WHO ARE THEY, HOW DO WE KNOW WHAT WORKS, AND WHOSE JOB IS IT?* Presented on 10 November 2015.
- Presentation of the parent perspective at The Grand Rounds Seminar Series - jointly sponsored by the University of Melbourne Department of Paediatrics, Murdoch Children's Research Institute and the Royal Children's Hospital Melbourne. Presented 18 May, 2016.

ORGANISATIONAL LINKAGES

MissingSchool maintained linkages or had interactions with a number of organisations including:

- ACT Council of Australian Social Services
- ACT Parents and Citizens Council, Australian Capital Territory
- Allergy and Anaphylaxis Australia
- Australasian Society of Clinical Immunology and Allergy
- Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth
- Arthritis NSW
- Association for the Wellbeing of Children in Healthcare
- Behavioural Sciences Unit, Sydney Children's Hospital



- Bendigo Bank
- Braver Stronger Smarter
- Children's Cancer Website
- Children's Healthcare Australasia
- Cure Starts Now
- Dentsu Mitchell Media
- H.E.L.P. Alliance
- Hospital Education Services, South Australia
- Kids' Cancer Centre Parent Advisory Council (Sydney Children's Hospital)
- Mater Hospital Special School, Queensland
- No Matter What
- Paediatrics at the Canberra Hospital, Australian Capital Territory
- Queensland Health
- Rare Voices
- Ronald McDonald House Charities
- Royal Children's Hospital Brisbane
- Royal Children's Hospital Education Institute, Victoria
- School of Special Education Needs, Western Australia
- Siblings Australia
- St George Bank
- Telethon Kids Institute
- Telstra Foundation
- VGo Telepresence Robots
- Victoria Institute, Melbourne
- Westmead Children's Hospital School, New South Wales

We continue to be contacted by parents, and health and education practitioners who are keen to tell their stories and who want to fill the gap in information and advice on how to keep kids in their care connected to their schools.



RESEARCHING

BEST PRACTICE MODELS AND ENABLING TECHNOLOGY

BEST PRACTICE MODELS -- ST GEORGE FUNDED RESEARCH WITH ARACY

MissingSchool commissioned and co-wrote *SCHOOL CONNECTION FOR SERIOUSLY SICK KIDS: WHO ARE THEY, HOW DO WE KNOW WHAT WORKS, AND WHOSE JOB IS IT?* The research remains the Intellectual Property of MissingSchool and can be found on our website.

The research examined current evidence, policies and approaches for supporting the education of students who experience non-negligible school absences because of significant illness or injury. The work was commissioned from ARACY by MissingSchool and supported by a generous grant from the St George Foundation, St George Bank. It resulted in a series of three reports intended as a starting point in a national conversation.

Students who miss school because of significant illness or injury face a variety of challenges in their education and may experience a range of adverse short-term and long-term consequences. Academic achievement may be affected, school relationships can be disrupted, motivation and engagement diminished, and isolation from the school community and peer group can have a profound effect on the student's social and emotional wellbeing.

The aim of this research is to understand the situation in which these students find themselves and whether it is adequately addressed. Each report addresses a separate question around how – and whether – these students are supported in their education.

Essential findings:

- The study had to estimate, from various limited data sources, the number of kids who miss school because of serious illness or injury - the estimate sits at around 60,000 students, not counting siblings who also experience school separation in the circumstances.
- There is no evidence-led or consistent operating model in place to support school connection for seriously sick kids in Australia - despite the precepts of access, inclusion and equity. Response to their needs varies widely and is complicated by their home and treatment locations, and now the longer periods in which they are recovering at home.



- Local school responses, policies and practices do not align with Commonwealth and state legislation around inclusion and equity. Continuous support is problematic, ad hoc and relies heavily on individual goodwill.

During the 2016 reporting year, MissingSchool worked with ARACY to finalise the St George Research on school connection for seriously sick kids. Progress across the period included:

- Co-writing and editing the three reports and updating and checking data for publication
- Coordinating peer reviews
- Arranging all aspects of media launch at Parliament House, including appointing public relations specialists, sponsorship by a Member of Parliament, developing media release and arranging family stories, media interviews and responses to enquiries following the launch.

ADVOCACY FOR COMMONWEALTH FUNDING TO TABLE RESEARCH

The advocacy following the national launch of *SCHOOL CONNECTION FOR SERIOUSLY SICK KIDS: WHO ARE THEY, HOW DO WE KNOW WHAT WORKS, AND WHOSE JOB IS IT?* resulted in the Commonwealth Government commissioning a follow-on research project from ARACY to the value of \$100,000. The purpose of this research is to respond to the findings of the first report, to investigate further and to raise issues of policy and practice to galvanise greater attention to the matter from states and territories.

MissingSchool was invited to the initial scoping meeting and will contribute to the development and direction of the study through a Project Advisory Group.

THEORY OF CHANGE

In June, 2016, MissingSchool commenced the development of its Theory of Change. The Theory of Change process will map the context of the problem of school disconnection for seriously sick kids from the problem itself, down through levels of causes, to root causes. It will overlay the problem map with a solution map, enabling MissingSchool to focus on intervention pathways to solving the problem while building evaluable evidence for the change. The Theory of Change work will continue into the next reporting period.

MAPPING CHILDREN'S ILLNESS GROUPS

MissingSchool will increase its outreach and engagement with children's illness groups to better understand the challenge of school absence and connection through the perspectives of specific illnesses. We have commenced researching and capturing illness groups in Australia and their contact details. Outreach will commence in the next reporting period.

ENABLING TECHNOLOGY

MissingSchool began to investigate the application of telepresence robots as a solution to school connection for seriously sick and injured kids. This included a



working collaboration with VGo (providers of telepresence robots in the USA), and development of a working proposal for a whole-of-jurisdiction pilot of telepresence robot technology in the Australian Capital Territory.

TELSTRA IMAGINARIUM FOR HUMAN CENTRED DESIGN

MissingSchool was successful in its application to the Telstra Imaginarium and participated in a six-day program between May-August 2016. This Not For Profit initiative, to improve the lives of young people in Australia, provided mentoring by industry experts and social innovation thought leaders in human centred design. It provided the opportunity to create and test with rapid prototyping, delve into user experience and gain insight into how to manage a digital project. School connection for seriously sick kids was investigated in a team setting at the Imaginarium.

RAISING FUNDS

ACHIEVING OBJECTIVES SUSTAINABLY AND BY MOBILISING PUBLIC SUPPORT

GRANTS AND DONATIONS

MissingSchool received donations of \$2861 during the year while not actively seeking donations from the public.

THE FUNDING NETWORK

In May 2015, MissingSchool submitted an application to the The Funding Network in response to an invitation to their Canberra event. The application was not successful but was the catalyst for developing a later proposal for a telepresence robot solution to keep seriously sick kids connected to their classrooms.

GOOGLE IMPACT CHALLENGE AUSTRALIA

In June 2015, MissingSchool developed a proposal for submission to the 2016 Google Impact Challenge Australia, which offered a substantial prize pool of up to \$750,000. The proposal was to set up an Australian-first telepresence robot pilot in the Australian Capital Territory. In the reporting period, MissingSchool developed the proposal concept and proposal, and set up a partnership including VGo Robots (USA), ARACY as an evaluation partner, and Dentsu Mitchell as a media partner. We garnered political support for the proposal and support from the ACT Education and Training Directorate as a major partner. This is a critical first step in achieving this solution.



PRO BONO CONTRIBUTIONS

MissingSchool acknowledges that it has been able to achieve a lot with very little because it has attracted high value contributions via pro bono work. These have mainly been provided by its volunteer Management Committee, but also others. Examples include Maggie Lanham Public Relations through a heavily discounted fee structure for the public relations activities on the launch of our national research, and efforts by Dentsu Mitchell Media in developing a Communications Strategy for MissingSchool free of charge.

FUNDING STRATEGY

As part of a renewed fundraising strategy, MissingSchool applied for Google Charity Advertising – enabling up to \$10,000 USD in in kind AdWords advertising every month – along with oversight from a Google advertising specialist. MissingSchool committed to initiating a website redesign to achieve greater outreach and advocacy, including fundraising.

PEOPLE

We continue to be staffed on a fully volunteer basis. Volunteer staffing for the 2016 year approximated two full-time equivalent staff.

MissingSchool has been able to achieve so much, with so little funding because of the high-level pro bono skills that have been applied to the effort through our volunteer staffing.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

In 2016, MissingSchool operated with a team of four part-time volunteers who maintained a focus on completing ongoing activities. These activities include the substantial completion and launch of the St George research with ARACY, its related media coverage, and the national advocacy that followed (covered elsewhere in this report).

Our management committee draws an understanding of MissingSchool's objectives from personal experience, and backs that up with evidence from relevant research, and practical action.

In early 2016 there was a change in MissingSchool's Management Committee. Gina Meyers stood down after four years of exceptional contribution and commitment, which included co-founding the Incorporation. Gina's position as Secretary was filled by Megan Jackson.



MEGAN GILMOUR – CHAIR



MEGAN JACKSON – SECRETARY



CATHY NELL – PUBLIC OFFICER



HUGH DIXON – TREASURER



MEMBERSHIP

MissingSchool retains six formally enrolled members. Increasing our membership was not a strategic priority in the 2016 year as all available time was focussed on completing our Australian-first research launch and our advocacy work. Growth of MissingSchool's membership – including membership by organisations - is a future objective.

MissingSchool's membership continues to be open to parents and carers of seriously sick kids and anyone else interested in achieving our objective of sustained school connection for seriously sick kids and their school-aged siblings.

OPERATIONS

STATUTORY REPORTING

MissingSchool maintained our statutory reporting obligations with the Office of Regulatory Services in the ACT, and the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission.



STRATEGIC PLANNING

In January 2016, MissingSchool developed and agreed a high-level strategic plan for the calendar year. The strategic plan was supported by a detailed workplan. The strategic plan and workplan will be reviewed in January 2017 for outcomes and outstanding tasks. All tasks will be reported at the end of the 2017 financial year, when a new strategic plan and detailed workplan will be developed to line up with the 2018 financial year.

Our imagined future is that today's "radical notion" of continuous school connection for seriously sick kids is something that will someday be taken for granted. A time when all kids with serious health conditions receive full support from their schools as a matter of course and MissingSchool is a thing of the past.

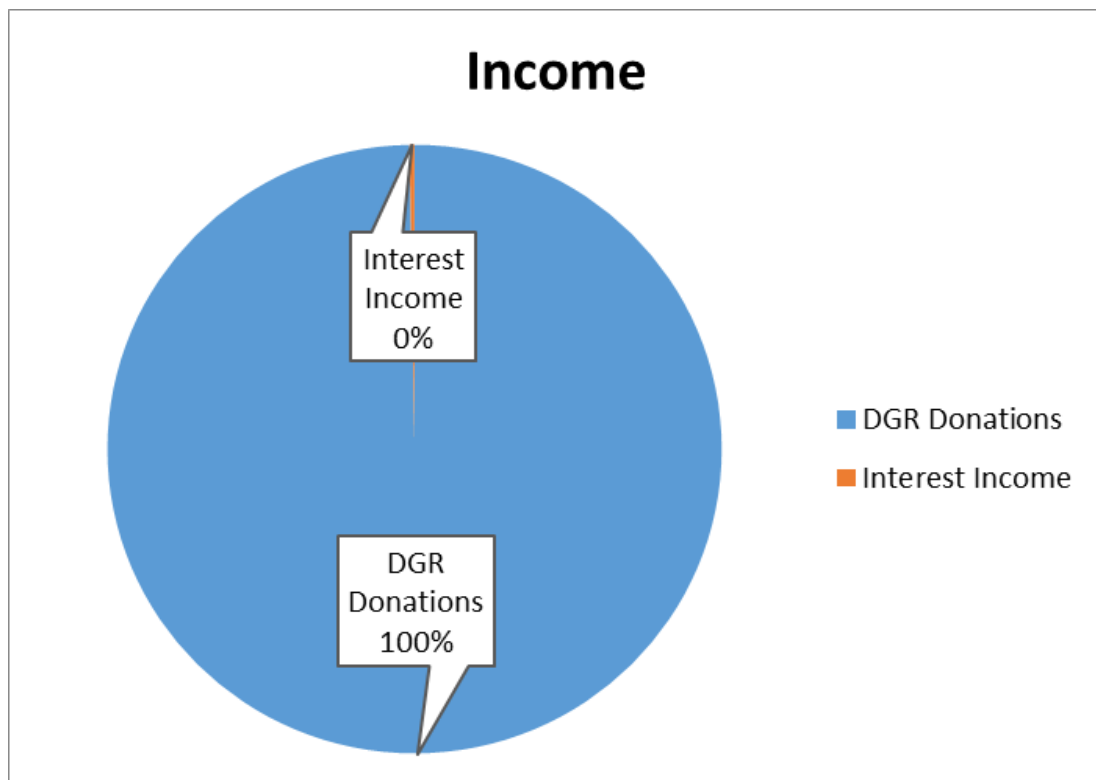
FINANCIAL REPORTING

At the end of June 2016, MissingSchool held assets totalling \$4,212.30.

Our accounts were audited and certified on 07/12/2016 by Certified Practicing Accountant, Stephen Sitko.

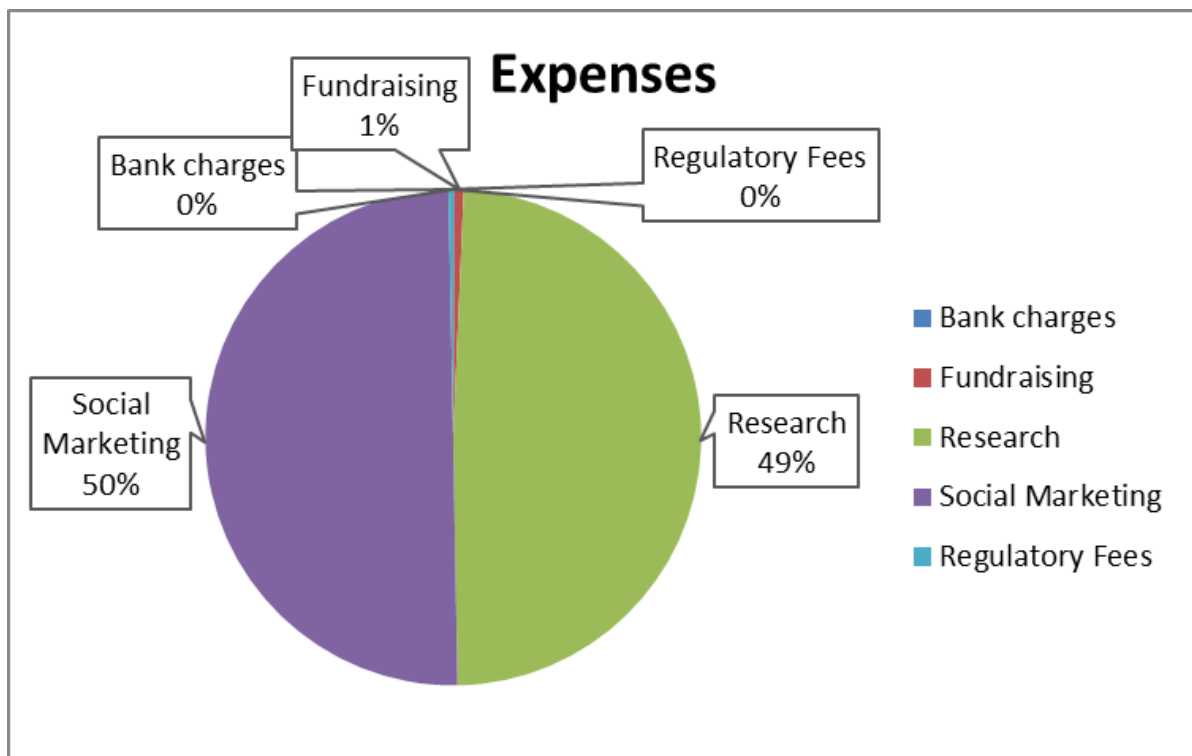
INCOME

Total income for the year amounted to \$2,868.80, comprising tax deductible donations of \$2,861.38, and bank interest of \$7.42.



EXPENDITURE

MissingSchool's expenses for the year totalled \$12,969.30. The largest expenditure was shared between research and practice (49%) and social marketing. Both related to completing the Australian-first research and its national media launch, resulting in national recognition of the issue. Social Marketing costs were split between a heavily discounted payment of \$5,385 to Lanham PR to achieve national media and public recognition, hosting our website, costs associated with collecting and communicating with subscribers, and advocacy advertising. Other operating costs were negligible.



BALANCE SHEET 2016

MissingSchool: Balance Sheet - As of 30/06/2016 As of 30/06/2016 (in Australian Dollars) (Cash Basis)

Account	30/06/2016 Balance
ASSETS	
Cash and Bank Accounts	
Society Cheque Account	4,212.30
TOTAL Cash and Bank Accounts	4,212.30
TOTAL ASSETS	4,212.30
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
LIABILITIES	
Other Liabilities	
Tax Control	-3.93
MC Contribution	0.00
TOTAL Other Liabilities	-3.93
TOTAL LIABILITIES	-3.93
EQUITY	4,216.23
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	4,212.30

PROFIT & LOSS STATEMENT 2016

MissingSchool: Profit & Loss Statement - Last year 1/07/2015 through 30/06/2016 (in Australian Dollars) (Cash Basis)

Category Description	1/07/2015- 30/06/2016
INCOME	
Charitable Income	
DGR Donations	2,861.38
TOTAL Charitable Income	2,861.38
Interest Income	7.42
TOTAL INCOME	2,868.80
EXPENSES	
Operating Exp.	
Bank charges	10.50
Fundraising	
Other Operating Exp.:Fundraising	77.27
TOTAL Fundraising	77.27
Initiatives	
Research&Practice	6,361.77
TOTAL Initiatives	6,361.77
Marketing	6,480.76
Regulatory Fees	39.00
TOTAL Operating Exp.	12,969.30
TOTAL EXPENSES	12,969.30
OVERALL TOTAL	-10,100.50



APPENDIX A – LINKS TO MEDIA ARTICLES

<http://www.canberratimes.com.au/act-news/pm-lends-weight-to-canberra-led-campaign-to-help-60000-sick-kids-who-are-missing-school-20151010-gk65xn.html>

<http://www.watoday.com.au/act-news/pm-lends-weight-to-canberra-led-campaign-to-help-60000-sick-kids-who-are-missing-school-20151010-gk65xn.html>

<http://www.smh.com.au/act-news/pm-lends-weight-to-canberra-led-campaign-to-help-60000-sick-kids-who-are-missing-school-20151010-gk65xn.html>

<http://mowser.com/web/http://theage.com.au/act-news/pm-lends-weight-to-canberra-led-campaign-to-help-60000-sick-kids-who-are-missing-school-20151010-gk65xn.html>

<http://www.smh.com.au/federal-politics/political-news/the-60000-sick-children-not-getting-the-education-they-need-report-20151011-gk6brg.html>

<https://twitter.com/brisbanejournal/status/653198397877317632>

<http://www.katherinetimes.com.au/story/3415322/pm-lends-weight-to-canberra-led-campaign-to-help-60000-sick-kids-who-are-missing-school/?src=rss>

<http://www.boorowanewsonline.com.au/story/3415322/pm-lends-weight-to-canberra-led-campaign-to-help-60000-sick-kids-who-are-missing-school/?src=rss>

<http://www.northernargus.com.au/story/3415322/pm-lends-weight-to-canberra-led-campaign-to-help-60000-sick-kids-who-are-missing-school/?src=rss>

<http://www.ulladullatimes.com.au/story/3415322/pm-lends-weight-to-canberra-led-campaign-to-help-60000-sick-kids-who-are-missing-school/?src=rss>

<http://www.edenmagnet.com.au/story/3415322/pm-lends-weight-to-canberra-led-campaign-to-help-60000-sick-kids-who-are-missing-school/?src=rss>

<http://www.theage.com.au/act-news/pm-lends-weight-to-canberra-led-campaign-to-help-60000-sick-kids-who-are-missing-school-20151010-gk65xn.html>

<http://www.crookwellgazette.com.au/story/3415322/pm-lends-weight-to-canberra-led-campaign-to-help-60000-sick-kids-who-are-missing-school/?src=rss>

<http://www.donnybrookmail.com.au/story/3415322/pm-lends-weight-to-canberra-led-campaign-to-help-60000-sick-kids-who-are-missing-school/?src=rss>

<http://www.newcastlestar.com.au/story/3415322/pm-lends-weight-to-canberra-led-campaign-to-help-60000-sick-kids-who-are-missing-school/?src=rss>

<http://www.dungogchronicle.com.au/story/3415322/pm-lends-weight-to-canberra-led-campaign-to-help-60000-sick-kids-who-are-missing-school/?src=rss>

<http://www.theleader.com.au/story/3415322/pm-lends-weight-to-canberra-led-campaign-to-help-60000-sick-kids-who-are-missing-school/?src=rss>

<http://www.dailyliberal.com.au/story/3415322/pm-lends-weight-to-canberra-led-campaign-to-help-60000-sick-kids-who-are-missing-school/?src=rss>

<http://www.araratadvertiser.com.au/story/3415322/pm-lends-weight-to-canberra-led-campaign-to-help-60000-sick-kids-who-are-missing-school/?src=rss>

<http://www.therural.com.au/story/3415322/pm-lends-weight-to-canberra-led-campaign-to-help-60000-sick-kids-who-are-missing-school/?src=rss>

<http://www.tenterfieldstar.com.au/story/3415322/pm-lends-weight-to-canberra-led-campaign-to-help-60000-sick-kids-who-are-missing-school/?src=rss>

<https://twitter.com/3novicesSydney/status/653208177425666048>

<http://www.maitlandmercury.com.au/story/3415322/pm-lends-weight-to-canberra-led-campaign-to-help-60000-sick-kids-who-are-missing-school/?src=rss>

<http://www.gannawarratimes.com.au/story/3415322/pm-lends-weight-to-canberra-led-campaign-to-help-60000-sick-kids-who-are-missing-school/?src=rss>

<http://www.gloucesteradvocate.com.au/story/3415322/pm-lends-weight-to-canberra-led-campaign-to-help-60000-sick-kids-who-are-missing-school/?src=rss>

<http://www.examiner.com.au/story/3415322/pm-lends-weight-to-canberra-led-campaign-to-help-60000-sick-kids-who-are-missing-school/?src=rss>

<http://www.naroomanewsonline.com.au/story/3415322/pm-lends-weight-to-canberra-led-campaign-to-help-60000-sick-kids-who-are-missing-school/?src=rss>

<http://www.canowindranews.com.au/story/3415322/pm-lends-weight-to-canberra-led-campaign-to-help-60000-sick-kids-who-are-missing-school/?src=rss>

<http://www.coomaexpress.com.au/story/3415322/pm-lends-weight-to-canberra-led-campaign-to-help-60000-sick-kids-who-are-missing-school/?src=rss>

<http://www.nambuccaguardian.com.au/story/3415322/pm-lends-weight-to-canberra-led-campaign-to-help-60000-sick-kids-who-are-missing-school/?src=rss>

<http://www.southernhighlandnews.com.au/story/3415322/pm-lends-weight-to-canberra-led-campaign-to-help-60000-sick-kids-who-are-missing-school/?src=rss>

<http://www.thecourier.com.au/story/3415322/pm-lends-weight-to-canberra-led-campaign-to-help-60000-sick-kids-who-are-missing-school/?src=rss>

<http://www.blacktownsun.com.au/story/3415334/the-60000-sick-children-not-getting-the-education-they-need-report/?src=rss>

<http://www.standard.net.au/story/3415322/pm-lends-weight-to-canberra-led-campaign-to-help-60000-sick-kids-who-are-missing-school/?src=rss>

<http://www.southernhighlandnews.com.au/story/3415322/pm-lends-weight-to-canberra-led-campaign-to-help-60000-sick-kids-who-are-missing-school/?src=rss>

<http://www.brisbanetimes.com.au/federal-politics/political-news/the-60000-sick-children-not-getting-the-education-they-need-report-20151011-gk6brg.html>

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PRIME MINISTER

MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER

MISSING SCHOOL LAUNCH

It is a sad fact that many young people in Australia suffer conditions which take them away from school.

Maintaining a connection with peers and friends during such times can be crucial for a student's social and emotional wellbeing, while continuing academic progress is important for long-term commitment to learning.

I commend everyone here today for your dedication to improving outcomes for children who miss school due to significant illness or injury.

You are doing a wonderful job in raising awareness of this issue, as well as bringing hope and encouragement to many young Australians, their families and carers. For that, you have my admiration and thanks.

I wish the organisers and attendees of today's event all the best as you continue this great work.

The Hon Malcolm Turnbull MP
Prime Minister of Australia

9 October 2015

APPENDIX C – CONTACT WITH COMMONWEALTH, STATE & TERRITORY POLITICIANS

Dr Andrew Laming, MP, Chair, Coalition Health Policy Committee, Parliament House, Canberra.

Dr David Gillespie, MP, Secretary, Coalition Health Policy Committee, Parliament House, Canberra.

Mr Adam Giles, Chief Minister of the Northern Territory, NT.

Mr Andrew Barr, Chief Minister of the Australian Capital Territory, ACT.

Mr Andrew Giles, MP, Co-convenor, Education, Science, Research and the Arts Caucus Committee, Parliament House, Canberra.

Mr Andrew Wilkie, MP, Member for Denison, Parliament House, Canberra.

Mr Clive Palmer, MP, Member for Fairfax, Parliament House, Canberra.

Mr Colin Barnett, Premier of Western Australia, WA.

Mr Daniel Andrews, Premier of Victoria, VIC.

Mr David Pisoni, MP, Shadow Minister for Education, SA.

Mr Jack Snelling, MP, Minister for Health, SA.

Mr Jay Weatherill, Premier of South Australia, SA.

Mr Jeremy Hanson, MLA, Leader of the Opposition, Shadow Minister for Health, ACT.

Mr Jeremy Rockliff, MP, Minister for Education and Training, TAS.

Mr Mark McArdle, MP, Shadow Minister for Health, QLD.

Mr Michael Ferguson, MP, Minister for Health, TAS.

Mr Mike Baird, Premier of New South Wales, NSW.

Mr Roger Cook, MLA, Shadow Minister for Health, WA.

Mr Simon Corbell, MLA, Minister for Health, ACT.

Mr Steve Doszpot, MLA, Shadow Minister for Education and Training, ACT.

Mr Timothy Mander, Shadow Minister for Education and Training, QLD.

Mr Walter Secord, MLC, Shadow Minister for Health, NSW.

Mr Will Hodgman, Premier of TAS, TAS.

Ms Anastacia Palaszczuk, Premier of QLD, QLD.

Ms Cathy McGowan AO, MP, Member for Indi, Parliament House, Canberra.



Ms Fiona Scott, MP, Secretary, Coalition Education Policy Committee, Parliament House, Canberra.

Ms Georgie Crozier, MLC, Shadow Minister for Families and Children, VIC.

Ms Joanne Ryan, MP, Chair, Social Policy Caucus Committee, Parliament House, Canberra.

Ms Joy Burch, MLA, Minister for Education and Training, ACT.

Ms Julie Owens, MP, Shadow Parliamentary Secretary for Education, Parliament House, Canberra.

Ms Lauren Moss, MLA, Shadow Minister for Family and Children's Services, NT.

Ms Linda Burney, MP, Shadow Minister for Education, NSW.

Ms Lisa Chesters, MP, Secretary, Social Policy Caucus Committee, Parliament House, Canberra.

Ms Lynne Walker, MLA, Shadow Minister for Health, NT.

Ms Michelle O'Byrne, MP, Shadow Minister for Education and Training, TAS.

Ms Nicole Manison, MLA, Shadow Minister for Education, NT.

Ms Rebecca White, MP, Shadow Minister for Health, TAS.

Ms Susan Close, MP, Minister for Education and Child Development, SA.

Ms. Susan Hopgood, Federal Secretary, VIC.

Senator Bob Day, AO, Senator for South Australia, Parliament House, Canberra.

Senator Bridget McKenzie, Chair, Coalition Education Policy Committee, Parliament House, Canberra.

Senator Claire Moore, Shadow Minister for Women, Parliament House, Canberra.

Senator David Leyonhjelm, Senator for New South Wales, Parliament House, Canberra.

Senator Glenn Lazarus, Senator for Queensland, Parliament House, Canberra.

Senator Jacqui Lambie, Senator for Tasmania, Parliament House, Canberra.

Senator John Madigan, Senator for Victoria, Parliament House, Canberra.

Senator Nick McKim, Greens Spokesperson on Schools, Parliament House, Canberra.

Senator Nick Xenophon, Senator for South Australia, Parliament House, Canberra.

Senator Richard di Natale, Leader of the Australian Greens, Parliament House, Canberra.



Senator the Hon Arthur Sinodinos, AO, Cabinet Secretary, Parliament House, Canberra.

Senator the Hon Jacinta Collins, Shadow Cabinet Secretary, Parliament House, Canberra.

Senator the Hon Michaela Cash, Minister for Women, Parliament House, Canberra.

Senator The Hon Simon Birmingham, Minister for Education and Training, Parliament House, Canberra.

The Hon Adrian Piccoli, MP, Minister for Education, NSW.

The Hon Amanda Rishworth, MP, Shadow Assistant Minister for Education, Parliament House, Canberra.

The Hon Bill Shorten, MP, Leader of the Opposition, Parliament House, Canberra.

The Hon Bob Katter, MP, Member for Kennedy, Parliament House, Canberra.

The Hon Cameron Dick, MP, Minister for Health, VIC.

The Hon Catherine King, MP, Shadow Minister for Health, Parliament House, Canberra.

The Hon Chris Bowen, MP, Shadow Treasurer, Parliament House, Canberra.

The Hon Dr Andrew Leigh, MP, Shadow Assistant Treasurer, Parliament House, Canberra.

The Hon Dr Kim Hames, MLA, Minister for Health, WA.

The Hon James Merlino, MLA, Minister for Education, VIC.

The Hon Jenny Macklin, MP, Shadow Minister for Families and Payments, Parliament House, Canberra.

The Hon Jill Hennessy, MLA, Minister for Health, VIC.

The Hon Jillian Skinner, MP, Minister for Health, NSW.

The Hon John Elferink, MLA, Minister for Health, NT.

The Hon Kate Ellis, MP, Shadow Minister for Education, Shadow Minister for Early Childhood, Parliament House, Canberra.

The Hon Kate Jones, MP, Minister for Education, QLD.

The Hon Kelly O'Dwyer, MP, Assistant Treasurer, Parliament House, Canberra.

The Hon Malcolm Turnbull, MP, Prime Minister, Parliament House, Canberra.

The Hon Mary Wooldridge, MLC, Shadow Minister for Health, VIC.

The Hon Nick Wakeling, MLA, Shadow Minister for Education VIC.

The Hon Peter Chandler, MLA, Minister for Education, NT.



The Hon Peter Collier, MLC, Minister for Education, WA.

The Hon Scott Morrison, MP, Treasurer, Parliament House, Canberra.

The Hon Stephen Wade, MLC, Shadow Minister for Health, SA.

The Hon Sue Ellery, MLC, Shadow Minister for Education, Shadow Minister for Children's Interests, WA.

The Hon Susan Ley, MP, Minister for Health, Parliament House, Canberra.

The Hon Wyatt Roy, MP, Assistant Minister for Innovation, Parliament House, Canberra.