



## Annual General Meeting Notice

14-15 March 2026

7 January 2026

Dear Board Members and Principals,

We are looking forward to welcoming and hosting you at our National Conference and AGM, in Sydney, on **14-15 March 2026**. This will be a particularly significant gathering, as it coincides with the **60th Anniversary of Christian Education National**. Our theme for the conference and anniversary celebration is **"Planted with Purpose, Growing by Grace, a Flourishing Future."** It will be a time to give thanks for God's faithfulness across six decades and to look forward with hope together.

We are excited to be welcoming **Dr Roshan Allpress** (National Principal/Chief Executive of Laidlaw College, New Zealand), and **Dan Anderson** (Director of The Lachlan Macquarie Institute) as keynote speakers.

The purpose of the National Conference is to re-establish and celebrate the "Why" of CEN – revisiting our roots, exploring our identity, and strengthening our collective vision for Christ-centred education. The conference is open to all members of CEN including, Board Members, Principals and Business Managers.

The National Conference and AGM will take place from **9am Saturday 14 March and concludes by 1pm on Sunday 15 March**. The venue for the conference is **Sydney Central Hotel** (Managed by The Ascott).

In place of an onsite conference dinner on the Saturday night of the conference, in 2026 we are holding a special **Gala Dinner** to celebrate CEN's 60th Anniversary. Tickets for the gala dinner are **separate to the conference registration and** are available for \$120 per person. **Numbers are limited**, so we ask that you register as soon as you are able. Register [here](#).

AACS will be holding their **Advocacy and Policy Summit**, at NSW Parliament House in Sydney, from 2 to 9pm Friday 13 March 2025. We encourage CEN delegates to consider arriving in Sydney on Friday morning in time to attend. [See here](#) for further detail and registration for the AACS Summit.

Please take the time now to read through the steps to registration, in particular the details pertaining to voting delegates, and nominations for our National Board.

Please register through the CEN website by Friday 27 February 2026.

[Click here to register for the National Conference.](#)

If you have any questions, please contact Melinda (melinda.simson@cen.edu.au) or call our national office on 02 4773 5800.

We look forward to gathering together in March!

Yours Faithfully,  
CEN National Board

## ATTENDANCE

The Annual General Meeting is the official decision-making vehicle for member associations of Christian Education National. Official representatives are entitled to speak on behalf of their associations. However, additional members of associations and other interested persons are encouraged to attend as observers. Observers may speak with the special approval of the meeting.

The following are invited to attend the AGM in an official capacity:

- one representative from each member association;
- state/territory executive officers;
- directors of Christian Education National;

**During your online registration, please indicate whether you will be an official/voting delegate or observer during the AGM.**

**Please ensure that the required form for the voting delegate attending the AGM is submitted to the national office by the due date.**

## EXPENSES

A levy according to school size and location is invoiced to each member association to help cover expenses for this conference. This levy includes the conference fee of one official voting delegate from your association, and a reduced conference cost for other non-official delegates.

## TRAVEL & ACCOMMODATION

All delegates are required to make their own transport arrangements. The hotel, Sydney Central Hotel, Managed by The Ascott (Thomas St, Haymarket), is approximately 20 minutes from Sydney Airport. An easy way to get to the venue is taking a train from the airport to Central Station, then just a short walk to the hotel. The hotel is conveniently located in Sydney's Central Business District and within walking distance of Central Train Station and the Darling Harbour Precinct.

The National Conference & AGM is residential. It is anticipated that all attendees will take advantage of this unique opportunity to spend time together building the vital, healthy, national CEN community envisaged by our biblical values and vision.

You are able to book additional nights of accommodation before or after our conference – just request this during your online registration. This is particularly relevant for those attending the AACS Advocacy and Policy Summit.

## VOTING

One representative from each CEN member association is entitled to vote. State/territory executive officers and directors of the National Board are entitled to participate in debate but are not entitled to vote.

## CREDENTIALS AND PROXIES

Please note that official (voting) representatives are required to email a completed credentials form to the CEN office prior to the AGM. Official representatives will not be recognised without completed credentials, so please ensure that the form is returned before the due date.

[Click here](#) to download the Representatives Credential form. Please email the completed form to [melinda.simson@cen.edu.au](mailto:melinda.simson@cen.edu.au) by Friday 27 February 2026.

If your association is unable to send an official representative, they may appoint a proxy to act on its behalf. The completed proxy form must be completed and returned to the CEN office by Friday 27 February 2026. [Click here](#) to download the proxy form.

## BOARD VACANCIES AND NOMINATION INFORMATION

### Nomination of Directors

The Constitution of Christian Education National Limited provides for the election of eight directors to serve on its board and up to two appointed directors. Directors may be re-elected or reappointed as Directors provided their period of service as a Director does not exceed a period of nine (9) consecutive years. Appointed directors serve until the AGM following their appointment.

**Directors who have served during 2025-2026 are:**

CUTCHIE, Mark	Director	VIC	Elected 2018, 2021, 2024
DE JONG, John	Director	TAS	Appointed Sept 2023, elected 2024
FLETCHER, Tanya	Secretary	VIC	Elected May 2022, 2024, <i>Resigned Aug 2025</i>
GOELST, Andrew	Chair	TAS	Elected 2020, 2023, <b>Eligible for re-election 2026</b>
METCALFE, John	Director	VIC	Board appointed May 2018 by virtue of his AACS Directorship
OGDEN, Vanessa	Director	VIC	Board Appointment Aug 2025, <b>Eligible for election 2026</b>
SPENCE, Andrew	Deputy Chair	NSW	Elected 2020, 2023, <b>Eligible for re-election 2026</b>
UNWIN, Carol	Treasurer	NSW	Board appointed February 2020, elected 2020, 2023, <b>Eligible for re-election 2026</b>

### Call for nominations

In accordance with the Constitution, any member association may nominate a person or persons to be elected to the board. A ballot of ordinary members is to be conducted during the 2025 AGM.

Accordingly, the Board of Directors is calling for nominations to fill **SIX vacancies**. Director nominations should be submitted using the appropriate form **by Monday 9 February 2026**. Members must obtain approval of the nominee prior to nomination.

[Click here](#) to download the nomination form.

Please note that the following must be emailed to the national office:

1. A brief summary of the nominee's background, including any qualifications and experience pertaining to the position of director;

2. Answers to the questions noted in the nomination form to assist members in their decisions;
3. A digital head and shoulders photo to publish with nominee information.
4. Confirmation the nominee has or will be able to obtain a DIN (Director Identification number) and a working with children/vulnerable people check prior to appointment as a Board Member.

## CHECKLIST

- 1) [Register](#) online through our website.
- 2) Book your flights / make travel arrangements.
- 3) Ensure your association's official (voting) representative has completed a [credentials form](#) and this has been scanned and emailed to the CEN Office prior to the meeting.
- 4) Submit your association's [nomination/s](#) for the national board.
- 5) Submit any [motions](#) your association wishes to place on the agenda.

**Do you have any questions?**

**Please email [melinda.simson@cen.edu.au](mailto:melinda.simson@cen.edu.au) or contact  
the national office on 02 4773 5800.**