



Governance Conference 2026

Beyond the Horizon: Strategic Foresight for Boards and Education Leaders

Why futures thinking matters now more than ever

The 2026 AISSA Governance Conference is an immersive, future-focused professional development opportunity designed to strengthen governance and leadership in a time of rapid change.

Led by Dr Kai Riemer and Dr Sandra Peter, attendees will explore how the global forces reshaping work, leadership and organisational capability are redefining the role of the educational leaders.

PROGRAM

8:00am	Registration Opens - Tea and coffee on arrival
8:45am	Welcome to Country
9:00am	Conference Welcome Anne Dunstan , Chief Executive, Association of Independent Schools of South Australia
9:10am	Platinum sponsor welcome
9:15am	2026 Skills Horizon – What school boards and education leaders need to know <i>The forces reshaping work, leadership and organisational capability are already transforming schooling. This session will explore what boards and education leaders need to understand now - from AI to emerging workforce trends and steward their schools into the future.</i> Dr Kai Riemer & Dr Sandra Peter , Co-Directors of Sydney Executive Plus, Experts in Emerging Technology, Generative AI & the Future of Work
10:45am	Morning Tea - Sponsored by Metro Canteens 
11:15am	Gold Sponsor - ngs super reflection 
11:20am	Futures Thinking – From concept to boardroom and leadership practice What is 'futures thinking' and why does it matter for boards and education leaders today? Explore how to embed futures thinking into governance and leadership practice and build capability in signals method. Dr Kai Riemer & Dr Sandra Peter , Co-Directors of Sydney Executive Plus, Experts in Emerging Technology, Generative AI & the Future of Work
12:35pm	Networking Lunch - Sponsored by Metro Canteens 

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1:20pm	Provocative scenario analysis <i>Step into a hands-on 'futures lab' where your board and leadership team will tackle real emerging issues facing education. You will apply the core practices of futures thinking to a set of provocations representative of near future scenarios.</i> Dr Kai Riemer & Dr Sandra Peter, Co-Directors of Sydney Executive Plus, Experts in Emerging Technology, Generative AI & the Future of Work
2:35pm	From insight to action <i>Share key insights and takeaways from your scenario analysis and hear perspectives from across the room.</i> <i>This closing session connects learning to action and helps delegates identify practical next steps to strengthen future-focused school governance and leadership.</i> Dr Kai Riemer & Dr Sandra Peter, Co-Directors of Sydney Executive Plus, Experts in Emerging Technology, Generative AI & the Future of Work
3:20pm	Thank you and conference close - Anne Dunstan
3:30pm	Networking Drinks
5:00pm	Close

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