



The 4th Biennial Equity Conference 2009
innovate-educate-celebrate
Hosted by NSW Priority Schools Programs

The 4th Biennial Equity Conference 2009 *innovate-educate-celebrate* hosted by NSW Priority Schools Programs will be held on 10-11 September, 2009 at the Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre, Darling Harbour, Sydney.

The conference will:

- include a rigorous focus on equity and education considering low socio-economic status communities and the intersecting factors including geographic isolation, Aboriginality, gender, disability and cultural and linguistic diversity
- support the NSW State Plan targets and the six Office of Schools Plan priorities of literacy, numeracy, student engagement and retention, Aboriginal education and training, teacher quality and connected learning.

CONFERENCE GOALS

The primary goal of the conference is to support schools to consider how they might do things *differently and better* rather than *more of the same* to achieve improvement in student literacy and numeracy outcomes and levels of student engagement in low socio-economic status school communities across New South Wales.

The goals of the conference are to:

- support capacity building in low socio-economic status school communities
- challenge thinking and refine practice
- focus on equity
- engage a diverse audience of teachers, school leaders, students, parents and community members
- conduct an eco-friendly conference.

CONFERENCE OUTCOMES

The outcomes of the conference are to:

- deliver high quality teaching and learning programs that improve the literacy, numeracy and engagement levels for every student
- present a conference program that offers innovative classroom and whole school approaches that build success in low socio-economic status school communities
- refocus on the intersecting nature of disadvantage and its relationship to educational achievement
- engage delegates from a range of school communities, all levels of the Department and those supporting education in the wider community
- use resources in an environmentally responsible way.

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

The criteria for workshop abstracts can be accessed via the conference website at www.equity2009.com. Abstracts may be submitted via the conference website. **Abstracts close on 27 May 2009.**

For further information, please telephone Mary-Lou O'Brien, Coordinator PSP, Innovations on 02 9244 5144 or Sharon Brett, Conference Project Officer on 02 9244 5385.

