



SHORE

Sydney Church of England
Grammar School

From the Headmaster

22 July 2013

The Australian Law Reform Commission

Review Committee of Copyright and the Digital Economy

Shore School Executive and Teaching Staff acknowledge the need for Copyright Law Reform in the new digital landscape. Clearly articulated definitions and practicable solutions to information sourcing and sharing for education will help remove the current confusion. Shore School Staff use information from a wide range of sources to create and prepare innovative lessons, often on a collaborative basis with their colleagues. In doing so, they routinely photocopy, print, scan and electronically share material with students and staff of the school.

As a CAL licence holder, Shore School participated in the Educational Statutory Licence System Audit in 2010, which informed the rate payable by CAL to authors and creators of the material we use. Although the Audit was onerous and time-consuming for that one term, Shore School Executive and Teaching Staff support the moral and legal principles that the people who create the educational content receive payment for their skill, expertise and time. Shore School also appreciates that the Licence System currently in place reduces teacher workload and school costs. The system is transparent, fair and equitable and enables teachers to copy and share material for a quarter the cost of commercially produced material over a wide variety of materials, including 'free to air TV'. CAL surveys of usage indicate that most uses of content under statutory licences are still hardcopy (photocopy and printing), thus repealing the statutory licence for education on the basis of digital concerns seems erroneous.

The current sampling system is time-efficient for teachers and supports quality, innovative teaching to enhance classroom practice. To have to negotiate with individual authors and keep logs of material used by 200 teaching staff on a permanent basis is unwieldy, unreliable and inefficient.

The digital landscape does require analysis with regard to clearly articulated definitions of 'fair use for Educational purposes' as copying in cyberspace is not able to be used for controlling copying of material as caching and reusing material is now practice.

Shore School would like to request that this letter be placed officially on record by being tabled as a formal submission to the ALRC Review Committee.

Dr Timothy Wright FACE MRACI CCHEM



For reasons outlined in this letter, Shore School strongly opposes any change to the current system that:

- will create any additional burden on teachers' time due to the proposed changes to the current copyright compliance regulations
- creates uncertainty about what teachers can and cannot share with their students
- takes away fair remuneration from the people who create high-quality educational resources, (many of whom are teachers) which we rely on and value highly.

Yours sincerely

Mr Graham J Robertson
Acting Headmaster