



# Principal Connection Days | 2024

An opportunity for regional, rural and remote school leaders to come together to strengthen connections, promote wellbeing and build leadership capability.

Following the success of last year’s Principal Connection Days series, we are delivering a further 4 sessions across regional NSW in 2024.

These events are open to all school principals (or an appropriate delegate) based in our regional, rural and remote schools.

We know leading a regional, rural or remote school has both unique rewards and challenges. This is an opportunity for you to come together with other school leaders to share and learn together.

The sessions will feature celebrated keynote speakers **Steve Francis** from Optimal Leadership Learning Future and **Kristen Douglas**, National Manager and Head of Headspace Schools.

## Session themes

- Connection and networking
- Supporting your wellbeing as a leader
- Building leadership capacity
- Supporting the wellbeing of your students, staff and community.

## Things to know

Sessions will be held over 2 half days, commencing at 12pm on day 1 and finishing at 12pm on day 2 to allow time for travel. Your accommodation, breakfast, lunch and dinner costs will be covered during the workshop.

## Dates and locations

*Places are limited - please register your interest.*

Dates	Location	Registration
Thursday 16 - Friday 17 May 2024	Port Macquarie - <b>Registration closed</b>	<a href="#">Register</a>
Thursday 27 - Friday 28 June 2024	Goulburn - <b>Registration closed</b>	
Thursday 15 - Friday 16 August 2024	Griffith	
Thursday 29 - Friday 30 August 2024	Dubbo	

For more information email the **Regional, Rural and Remote Implementation Unit** at [RRRI@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:RRRI@det.nsw.edu.au).

[education.nsw.gov.au](http://education.nsw.gov.au)

## Keynote speakers



### Steve Francis

#### OPTIMAL Leadership Learning Future

Steve Francis is an expert in the complexities of school leadership. He has been the Principal of a number of Queensland schools, from a one-teacher school to a large metropolitan school, as well as Principal of an international school in Hong Kong.

Steve understands the challenges and demands of being a school leader. He completed his Masters in School Leadership focusing on stress in schools, which led him to develop the Happy School program. To support busy school leadership teams to get clear and aligned, he also developed School Leadership Sprints.

Steve works with leading educators across Australia and New Zealand to help them reach their potential and optimise their schools. For the past five years he has been recognised by Educator magazine as one of the top 50 most influential educators in Australia.



### Kristen Douglas

#### National Manager & Head of Headspace Schools

Kristen Douglas has a Bachelor and Master of Education and over 28 years' experience in the education, health, mental health, suicide, not for profit and government sectors. Kristen has held several roles such as educator, Principal, Adolescent Forensic Health Manager, National Mental Health Manager, and roles within state government.

Kristen has significantly contributed to the synergy between education and mental health in Australia. From guiding government policy to leading transformational change and national reform, she has led many national and state initiatives.

As Head of headspace Schools, Kristen continues to lead a large multi-disciplinary national team of mental health and education professionals to support schools across Australia from promotion, prevention, early intervention and intervention to postvention.