



## Students get a taste of the Principal's role

Getting sent to the Principal's office will take on a new meaning for more than 300 students across Australia today (**Wednesday 3 June**) – they'll be in charge, not in trouble.

Now in its third year, *Student Principal for a Day* (sp4d) is a successful national event run by Principals Australia Institute to give participants a practical taste of what it's like to run a complex organisation – their own school.

It will take place in 176 primary and secondary schools across all schooling sectors - government, Catholic and independent - in all states and territories. The student principals were selected through various school-initiated processes, including written applications and rigorous panel interviews!

*"Student Principal for a Day* aims to unleash and inspire the best qualities in students and highlight the vital role schools play in shaping this country," said Jim Davies, CEO of Principals Australia Institute.

"It is proving to be a great success, with the number of participating students doubling since we launched the idea back in 2013."

The event's major sponsor is out-of-school-hour care organisation Sherpa Kids Australia.

During the day, the young principals will undertake a variety of tasks, such as leading an assembly, lesson, or staff meeting, interviewing a retired principal or school board member or conducting a safety audit. They will also join a national webinar to share their experiences and reflect on how they see life from the Principal's chair.

An exciting new initiative in 2015 is access to the online tool *Flipgrid*, which will allow students to get creative in sharing short videos of their experiences, thoughts and reflections on leadership during the day.

"It is really important that we help young people to articulate in their own words what makes a quality leader," Mr Davies said. "While the event is about having fun, it is also about developing effective leadership skills in our students."

**Media note: Jim Davies is available for interview, as are students and principals at participating schools. Contact Madeleine Regan on 0419 276 676 or [madeleine.regan@pai.edu.au](mailto:madeleine.regan@pai.edu.au)**

*Principals Australia Institute (PAI) provides professional learning, leadership development and support to the nation's 10,000 principals and schools. PAI is a not-for-profit organisation supporting primary and secondary schools across all schooling sectors (government, Catholic and independent).*



Visit the sp4d website: <http://www.sp4d.edu.au>