



## Department of School Education



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Our reference:

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### MEMORANDUM TO SCHOOL PRINCIPALS

90/133

(S.103)

### COMMUNITY SERVICE ORDERS SCHEME

The Community Service Orders Scheme has been operating in NSW Government schools on a trial basis since November, 1986. (Memorandum to School Principals (86/230)). Continuing approval was indicated to schools in a Memorandum to School Principals (90/007) dated 30.1.90.

The Community Service Orders Scheme was introduced by the Department of Corrective Services through the Probation and Parole Service. It provides an alternative to a prison sentence by enabling courts to allow those convicted of minor offences to serve their sentence by carrying out tasks of use to the community.

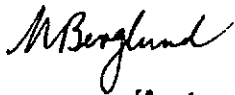
If you are interested in the Community Service Orders Scheme and have work that cannot be performed by Departmental staff or other available assistance, you may contact your nearest Probation and Parole Office.

The recent appointments of Cluster Directors makes it appropriate to review the conditions for operating this scheme. They are:

- \* The scheme may operate at any time agreed jointly by the Principal and Cluster Director.
- \* Those with a record of convictions including drug offences (excluding alcohol), sex offences, child abuse or crimes involving violence and physical injury are to be excluded.
- \* The offenders are to be supervised whilst on school premises. While the onus of supervision is to rest with the Department of Corrective Services and not with the Department of School Education, school personnel can accept a supervisory role during school hours, following full discussion of arrangements and agreement by the personnel involved.
- \* The School Principal must maintain a register of all instances of the school's participation, appropriately noted by the Cluster Director.

A pamphlet entitled "Community Service Orders Scheme for Adult Offenders - An Alternative to Imprisonment" is available, on request, from the Department of Corrective Services.

Yours sincerely,



Acting Director-General



(Dr.) F.G. Sharpe  
Director-General

DISTRIBUTION: 1, 2, 3, 8A, 9A, 9B.

23/07/90