

# YOUTH Engagement Plan

Advancing  
education

Young people are smart, creative, energetic change-makers, full of ideas and possibilities, constantly adapting to the global world. Our challenge is to understand the complexities facing our youth and continuing to provide the right conditions for them to succeed.

Successful engagement with the education system from early childhood to young adulthood is associated with positive outcomes in almost every facet of life – employment opportunities and earnings, health, family and community participation.

Our priority is to ensure our schools are equipped to provide the positive and agile learning environments young people need to stay engaged.

We are responding to the challenges of this new world by supporting children's readiness in the early years and then throughout their school years. Our teachers are delivering quality and engaging learning opportunities for all students by promoting inclusivity and harnessing students' interests, setting them on the path of lifelong learning.

By improving our responses to early warning signs of disengagement and implementing proactive strategies to encourage student participation, our plan for youth engagement will give all young people a chance to succeed.

Increased completion of  
year **12** = > increased skills and knowledge  
> increased economic growth <sup>1</sup>

Increased completion of  
year **12** = **\$2.07m** in lifetime earnings, compared to \$1.74m for early leavers <sup>2</sup>

**90%** of Year 12 leavers doing a trade apprenticeship or traineeship were employed after training <sup>3</sup>

## Our youth engagement plan will deliver:

- › more young people completing Year 12 or equivalent
- › improved identification of at-risk students and early action to get their learning back on track
- › better information about programs and services for disengaged children and young people.

“We want every young Queenslander to reach their potential.”

– Kate Jones MP  
Minister for Education

More information  
[www.qld.gov.au/youthengagement](http://www.qld.gov.au/youthengagement)



Queensland  
Government



## Making connections

We are connecting students, parents, schools and communities with the information and resources they need by:

- › using a range of strategies to deliver information to those who need it
- › developing a re-engagement framework to support collaboration across all schools.

## Strengthening transitions

We are supporting young people to make successful transitions by:

- › ensuring all students experience a strong start in their first year of secondary school
- › supporting students to succeed after they leave school by providing career information, including options for further education, training and employment
- › building on the momentum of Skilling Queenslanders for Work and other vocational education and training programs to deliver outcomes for school leavers.

## Sharing responsibility

We are working with schools and communities to provide at-risk and disengaged students with support to re-engage with education, training or employment by:

- › forming a statewide Youth Engagement Alliance of identified leaders from state schools, special assistance schools, government agencies and key stakeholders to co-design innovative models for at-risk and disengaged students
- › establishing regional Youth Engagement Hubs to create and implement local solutions to local issues
- › improving the tracking of early school leavers to ensure re-engagement strategies are well targeted
- › providing an evaluation frame to consistently measure outcomes of alternative approaches and inform future investment.

## Responding to early warning signs

We are working proactively to assist children and young people at-risk of disengagement by:

- › supporting school use of the Australian Early Development Census (AEDC) data to plan for the strengths and vulnerabilities of children in their community as they transition into school
- › providing inclusive professional development for early childhood educators to support vulnerable children
- › establishing positive behaviours early through customised intervention for vulnerable students in Prep to Year 3
- › using data to predict students at risk of leaving school early to inform early intervention strategies.

Education is not just for a privileged few, it is for everyone. It is a fundamental human right.<sup>4</sup>

– Ban Ki-Moon  
United Nations Secretary-General

The highest performing education systems across OECD countries are those that combine quality with equity.<sup>5</sup>

– OECD

1. Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2011.
2. AMP. NATSEM Income and Wealth Report, 2012.
3. National Centre for Vocational Education and Research (NCVER), 2015.
4. Ki-Moon, Ban, 2012.
5. Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), 2012.