1. School discipline is an important component of a high quality education system. Children and young people need self-discipline as part of their social development, and in order to achieve their academic and personal goals. Furthermore, students need safe, supportive and focussed environments in which to learn.
2. A plan has been developed to strengthen the power and capacity of principals and their staff to improve discipline in all state schools.
3. Under the plan:
* Principals will have more power and flexibility to take disciplinary action. The Department of Education, Training and Employment will explore ways to cut red tape and strengthen principal power to take disciplinary action. This will include introducing *Community Service Interventions* which will require young people who behave in unacceptable ways to undertake community service.
* Parents of disruptive students may be asked to sign discipline improvement plans that will outline clear expectations for improved behaviour and the consequences of not meeting their obligations.
* Audits will be conducted to ensure that every state school has a strong approach to discipline, including clear expectations for student behaviour that are mirrored by fair, consistent and appropriate consequences for students when these expectations are not met.
* It is proposed to strengthen partnerships with Special Assistance Schools to expand the number of alternative environments for students who need highly specialised approaches.
1. Cabinet approved the plan to strengthen discipline in Queensland’s state schools.
2. *Attachments*
* Nil.