
Notes on the report

The structure of this report aligns with the three key components of the Student Engagement Framework Model, as depicted in Chapter 2 – Engagement Indicators.

First, the report presents findings relating to Engagement Indicators. This is followed by a discussion of the primary and then secondary factors that have been found to influence students' engagement with school and learning.

In most chapters, findings from the quantitative and qualitative research components have been integrated in such a way that the survey findings (quantitative component) are discussed first followed by an analysis of the group discussion findings (qualitative component). The remaining chapters contain results from one research component only (for example if the topic was not part of the student survey or the group discussion).

Specifically relating to data from the student survey, each chapter includes results for all participating students as well as comparisons between the following student groups: female and male students, students in metropolitan and regional areas, and Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal students. In some chapters, additional comparisons such as between students born in Australia and students born elsewhere have also been included if they were deemed relevant.

Where differences have been found between individual student groups, the report identifies whether the difference is statistically significant or not.

No comparisons between individual student groups have been made in the analysis of the information from the group discussions. However, some comments from students are included where they made reference to particular groups of students based on school characteristics (such as students attending schools in regional locations or boarding schools) or student characteristics (such as those who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and/or intersex (LGBTI)).

Each chapter concludes with student suggestions for change as articulated by students in response to the question: "If you could change one thing about your school, what would that be?"

Additionally, the report also includes separate chapters with information and findings relating to:

- students in education support centres and students with disability
- students in regional areas
- Aboriginal students.

The chapter relating to students in education support centres is a descriptive analysis of information from the survey that includes no quantitative findings due to the small sample size of participating students.

The chapters relating to students in regional areas and Aboriginal students are comparative in nature and present quantitative findings that compare the results for regional students to the results for metropolitan students and the results for Aboriginal students to results for non-Aboriginal students.

The last chapter is a summary of the information gained from parents and carers through the electronic parent survey. The chapter presents both quantitative and qualitative findings.