



What is a FlexiSpace?

FlexiSpaces are an in-school tool to provide short-term support for students who are showing early signs of disengaging from learning.

They are purpose-built learning environments with flexible furniture and learning zones, where teachers tailor their teaching and curriculum to reconnect students who would benefit from additional support to learning.

FlexiSpaces are staffed by teachers and support staff to provide students with uninterrupted access to the Australian Curriculum with high expectations for student learning. FlexiSpaces are designed to keep young people connected to their peers and teachers by providing flexible support to help them build confidence and regain their love of learning.

Why FlexiSpaces?

The FlexiSpace concept was successfully trialled and evaluated in Queensland state high schools between 2018 and 2020.

FlexiSpaces are an evidence-based strategy for helping keep students engaged, learning and achieving at school.

The trial showed improvements for many students in attendance, academic outcomes and student wellbeing, as well as a reduction in school disciplinary absences.

There are now over 100 FlexiSpaces established or being implemented in state schools across Queensland.

The program is being expanded to primary schools for the first time.





FlexiSpaces are a place to:

- explore innovative teaching in flexible learning environments
- work in smaller groups with a focus on individual learning goals
- embrace creative curriculum delivery
- focus on wellbeing and engagement
- regain student trust and strengthen belonging and engagement
- foster inclusion and collaboration
- work with students to develop strategies to support their learning
- set high expectations for student learning and academic success.

FlexiSpaces are not:

- a permanent destination for students
- a place for ‘difficult kids’
- a place with lower expectations
- stand-alone units that operate separately from the school
- a stepping-stone out of school
- replacements for existing student supports

How were FlexiSpace sites chosen?

The department used a range of data to understand the level of student engagement and future risk of disengagement when identifying potential sites.

This included student engagement and attendance rates, Index of Community Socio-Educational Advantage (ICSEA), as well as enrolment, school facility data and local knowledge about school suitability.

Prospective schools were invited to take part in the FlexiSpace initiative.

Schools must meet eligibility criteria and are supported to establish educational programs and refurbish spaces to meet the department’s FlexiSpace Operational Guidelines and Design Principles.



Can we establish a FlexiSpace at my school?

Schools not involved in the department’s FlexiSpace initiative are encouraged to consult their regional office about future opportunities.

Schools outside the FlexiSpace initiative can establish an approved alternative learning program that meets school needs. The [Establishment of an Alternative Learning Program](#) procedure outlines the requirements for establishing these programs.

Department of Education staff wanting to learn more about FlexiSpaces can request access to the [FlexiSpace SharePoint](#), which includes the FlexiSpace Operational Guidelines and other resources.

For more information on the FlexiSpace initiative, please contact: FlexiSpaces@qed.qld.gov.au

