

Our system: **ROLES** and **RESPONSIBILITIES**

Strong governance is a vital component of a responsive and effective education and training system. An effective governance system ensures accountability and transparency through:

- ▶ clear roles and responsibilities
- ▶ targeted responses at every level
- ▶ effective collaboration.

Whole of government

The Queensland Government fosters a shared vision for maximum engagement of children and young people in education or training, and will:

- ▶ collaborate to ensure all relevant government agencies who work with children and young people adopt a coordinated approach to youth engagement
- ▶ support the Youth Engagement Alliance — a forum for Queensland Government agencies, schooling sectors and other stakeholders to partner in our efforts to improve the re-engagement of young Queenslanders in education, training or employment. Visit www.qld.gov.au/youthengagementalliance.

The Department of Education — Central office

The Department of Education sets the overarching policy for engagement in education and training, allocates resources, and monitors outcomes, and will:

- ▶ work with other agencies, community-based organisations, special assistance schools and other stakeholders at a system-wide level to remove any barriers to collaboration
- ▶ ensure policies, procedures, OneSchool and other resources support regions and schools to support all students
- ▶ support consistent and objective evaluation of alternative approaches to inform future investment
- ▶ ensure that resourcing mechanisms recognise the role that schools and regions play in maximising engagement and re-engagement.

Regional directors and regional Department of Education teams

Regional directors and regional Department of Education teams support the effective implementation of education and training programs and services at a local level, and will:

- ▶ ensure schools retain and deliver high-quality programs that maximise all student outcomes
- ▶ consider school and regional data, including the complete picture provided by combined retention, suspension, A-E behaviour, exclusion and cancellation data
- ▶ work collaboratively to support the provision of high-quality responses to children and young people at risk of disengaging from education in their region
- ▶ identify and address disengagement where disengagement is prevalent
- ▶ support ongoing liaison with relevant agencies and other stakeholders
- ▶ work with schools (including, where appropriate, non-state schools) to support better networking of resources
- ▶ ensure all regional staff, (assistant regional directors, senior guidance officers, regional youth support coordinators and so on) play a role in supporting engagement and re-engagement of children and young people who are disengaged or at risk of disengagement.
- ▶ lead a regional Youth Engagement Hub
- ▶ approve new alternative settings mainstream schools
- ▶ foster collaboration with other government agencies to ensure multidisciplinary approaches
- ▶ support the inclusion of the vast majority of students in mainstream state schools.

Schools and school leaders

Schools and school leaders provide high-quality services for children and young people, and will:

- ▶ lead safe, supportive and inclusive state schooling with high-quality engagement opportunity and appropriate intervention
- ▶ collaborate as part of a network of schools to share resources and learnings
- ▶ take responsibility for retention, exclusion, suspension and cancellation data
- ▶ show extreme vigilance when deciding to move students out of mainstream settings
- ▶ support every early leaver to make a strong transition to an eligible option
- ▶ give careful consideration to offering tailored, in-school approaches to meet the needs of their most at-risk students
- ▶ consider relevant legislative obligations when enrolling students who have become disengaged
- ▶ marshal existing school resources to deliver outcomes for all enrolled students, including students who are at risk of disengaging or who are disengaged
- ▶ recognise their responsibility for 'passing the baton' when they make a decision to move their student into an alternative education setting
- ▶ recognise their role as a leader within a community of schools and work with school networks to find ways of using resources to meet the needs of their most at-risk and disengaged students and, where possible, disconnected students
- ▶ recognise and actively support other agencies that may be involved in the lives of some young people.

What is a regional Youth Engagement Hub?

A Youth Engagement Hub is the system established by each regional director to lead youth engagement and re-engagement in their region.

The Youth Engagement Hubs provide regional directors with the authority and structures to lead engagement and re-engagement in their region by:

- ▶ actively identifying young people who are disengaged, and supporting them to reconnect with education, employment or training
- ▶ providing required support to assistant regional directors, guidance officers and other relevant leaders to ensure mainstream schools retain the vast majority of students
- ▶ fostering innovation and good practice
- ▶ allocating discretionary resources
- ▶ building collaborative capability, including with partner agencies
- ▶ supporting evidence-based decision-making.

Regional Youth Engagement Hubs complement the significant achievements of state schools in providing safe, supportive and inclusive schools that deliver outcomes for every student. Youth Engagement Hubs are designed by regional directors. They will not be uniform across the state. They will be designed to meet the unique geographic and demographic context of each region.

According to regional circumstances, Youth Engagement Hubs may establish:

- ▶ regional systems to identify and re-engage children and young people who are disengaged
- ▶ alternative sites for young people who are disengaged and are not thriving in mainstream settings
- ▶ partnerships and networks with and between mainstream, alternative and flexible settings to strive for a continuum of programs and services for all children and young people
- ▶ governance arrangements that foster better collaboration and multi-agency approaches, including regional or local memorandums of understanding
- ▶ partnerships and networks of state schools to support retention of students in mainstream settings.

Youth Engagement Hubs *may*:

- ▶ be established as teams in regional offices, schools or other settings, in virtual settings, or a combination of both
- ▶ consist of a single hub or a network of hubs throughout regions
- ▶ include external agents (for example, community-based organisations, special assistance schools, other government agencies) or co-opt this collaboration as required.