



School reviews — information for school staff

Every Queensland state school undergoes a review at least once every 4 years.

The majority of schools are designated one of 2 types of review – either a school review fully conducted by the Department of Education School and Region Reviews (SRR) branch or a school-led review which is co-conducted by the school and SRR. A small number of schools may engage in a differentiated review type in consideration of their unique context – these reviews are conducted by the SRR in collaboration with the school community. A fact sheet on school-led reviews is also available for school staff.

The reviews play an important part in how the department supports school improvement.

The reviews provide schools with quality feedback to help them continue to improve learning outcomes for students. They are not used to compare schools or to rate the performance of staff.

Schools are generally reviewed in the year that they are due to update their 4-year strategic plan. The findings and feedback from the review helps to inform this planning process.

Review process

Reviews are conducted by experienced educators trained in the use of the *School Improvement Tool*, a nationally recognised framework for reviewing teaching and learning practices.

Review teams generally consist of 2 to 4 reviewers, but the number of reviewers and length of each review depends upon a range of factors, including the size and context of the school.

Reviewers look closely at each school's performance data and speak with a wide range of staff, students, parents and community members to get an accurate picture of the school.

Unlike many other review systems, schools aren't ranked or given a performance rating. Instead, the school is given a comprehensive report for consideration.

The report details key findings and recommended improvement strategies to maximise student outcomes. The school publishes the executive summary or full report on its website. Principals are encouraged to share this information with their staff and school community to help shape the school's strategic direction.

Staff participation

Feedback from staff is an important part of school reviews, with all staff encouraged to have their say. Interviews with staff generally take place outside, in an office or in another quiet area of the school.

Interviews with reviewers should not increase staff workload. They are professional conversations intended to give staff an opportunity to talk about their school. Reviewers do not use checklists or a set list of questions. Review conversations are framed by the 9 domains of the *School Improvement Tool*. Participation is voluntary and all feedback remains confidential.

Schools generally organise a staff member to accompany reviewers to classrooms and to provide teacher relief so that teachers can speak with a reviewer.

To register your interest in participating in a review, please speak with your principal or email SRR at reviews@qed.qld.gov.au.

More information

For more information about school reviews, including when your school will be reviewed, please visit the School Reviews website at www.schoolreviews.education.qld.gov.au, or contact SRR on (07) 3035 2217 or email reviews@qed.qld.gov.au.