

YOUTH ENGAGEMENT ALLIANCE

A pledge to young people



Queensland
Government

THE NEED TO COLLABORATE

A pledge to young people

Queensland government departments, and their non-government partners, work tirelessly to ensure that every child and young person is equipped with the tools and support they need to succeed professionally and personally.

Educational outcomes for young people are improving; over 86% of Year 12 graduates transitioned to further study or employment. This higher level of attainment will lower unemployment, increase incomes and improve health indicators.

Some young Queenslanders have a number of complex needs that do not fit neatly into departmental boundaries or portfolios, impeding the pace of intervention.

We, collectively, pledge to collaborate across government departments and our partners to ensure no young person

is left behind. There will be no 'wrong door' for children and youth. From the most senior levels of government, we support local practitioners to join together to achieve the best outcomes for each young person.

This is not a new initiative or idea — this is an acknowledgment of the complex lives of many young Queenslanders, and a solemn pledge to ensure that we continue to innovate, collaborate, and work harmoniously with a shared purpose of setting each young person on a path to success.



Education and participation are the cornerstones of each young person's future success, and the future of our state.

Dave Stewart - Director-General, Department of the Premier and Cabinet.



This is an unequivocal statement of our expectation that officers of all agencies will work collaboratively in the best interests of each young person.

Tony Cook - Director-General, Department of Education

VALUES

WHOLE-OF-GOVERNMENT VALUES FOR COLLABORATIVE YOUTH INTERVENTIONS

Our pledge is underpinned by an agreed set of core values about how we work together, at all levels, to deliver services to young Queenslanders.

This complements the Queensland Youth Strategy and the Pledge will be implemented in line with the government's commitments to youth engagement under a Youth Charter.

Outcomes focused

All our attention is placed on the needs of young Queenslanders. Our purpose is to ensure they achieve the qualifications necessary to live a fulfilling and productive life.



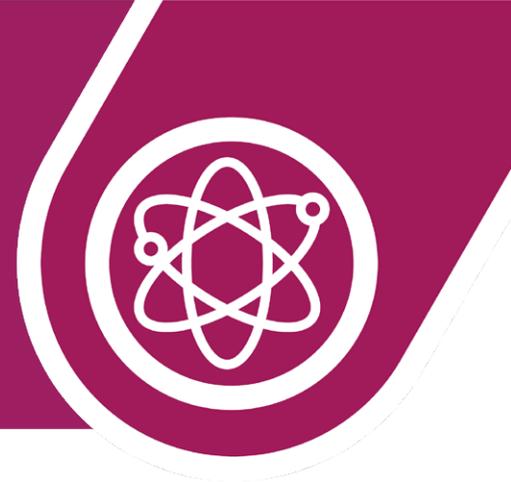
Child centred

We will build a strong culture of commitment to every child and young person. At the core of every decision is attention to the wellbeing of the child or young person.



Holistic

We will provide a continuum of services, accessible to all children and youth. Their needs can be complex, which requires a combination of services and interventions provided by numerous agencies working in tandem. Regardless of their point of entry, children and youth will be able to access all appropriate support services provided by all agencies.





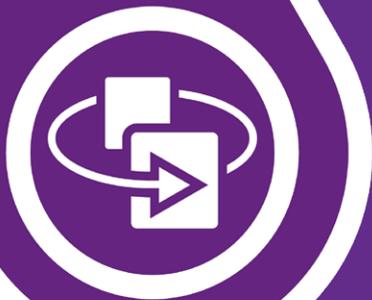
Local responses

Our frontline people are best at identifying the needs of our young people. They are ideally placed to deliver flexible, creative and innovative strategies to re-engage our children and youth.



Reciprocity

Our actions must demonstrate a willingness to collaborate. All our interactions necessitate some give and take, and the expression of diverse views must be encouraged. Every agency involved will bring valuable skills and expertise to the table.



Information sharing

Professionals and managers on the ground, making decisions regarding a child or young person, can only do so with all the information available to them. The flow of information between departments, while strictly in keeping with privacy protections, is of vital importance.

Pledge *in action*

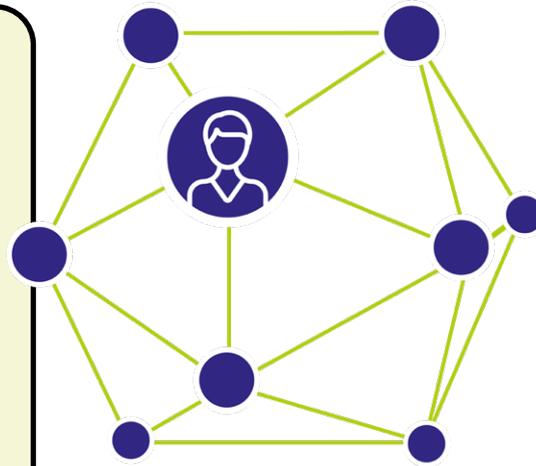
To realise this pledge, we commit to action to support our systems and our staff to build on these success factors.

We will:

support inter-agency collaborative practice at the local level, through frontline staff

establish youth engagement as a priority within our agencies, and promote collaborative youth engagement practices throughout our organisations

deliver a 'no-wrong door' approach to service delivery in Queensland, ensuring any disengaged young person presenting to any Alliance agency will be supported to re-engage with education training or employment.



Tony Cook | Director-General
Department of Education

Dave Stewart | Director-General
Department of the Premier and Cabinet

Rachel Hunter | Under Treasurer
Queensland Treasury

John Wakefield | Director-General
Queensland Health

Deidre Mulkerin | Director-General
Department of Children, Youth Justice and Multicultural Affairs

Warwick Agnew | Director-General
Department of Employment, Small Business and Training

Clare O'Conner | Director-General
Department of Communities, Housing and Digital Economy

Katarina Carroll | Commissioner
Queensland Police Service

Chris Sarra | Director-General
Department of Seniors and Disability Services and Aboriginal and
Torres Strait Islander Partnerships

Cheryl Vardon | Chief Executive and Principal Commissioner
Queensland Family and Child Commission