Department of
Education

GOVERNMENT OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Students at Educational Risk in Public Schools Policy

Effective date: 1 January 2015

Version: 2.5

Last update date: 4 October 2023

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1. Policy statement

The Department of Education identifies, responds to and supports the diverse needs of all students so that they are able to engage with the content and standards defined in the Western Australian Curriculum.

2. Policy rules

Principals and teaching staff will develop and implement processes to identify, provide for, monitor and report on students who may be at educational risk.

Principals and teaching staff will comply with the Students at Educational Risk in Public Schools Procedures.

3. Responsibility for Implementation and Compliance

Implementation of the policy is the responsibility of the principal and teaching staff.

Compliance monitoring is the responsibility of line managers.

4. Scope

This policy applies to principals and teaching staff in public schools.

5. Supporting Procedures

Students at Educational Risk in Public Schools Procedures

6. Definitions

Documented plan

An umbrella term used to describe a range of ways of catering for the educational needs of individual or smaller groups of students with identified needs. It is primarily a teaching and learning planning document, and it identifies short to medium term educational outcomes. Documented plans may take a variety of forms, including:

- Individual Education Plans (IEP);

- Individual Behaviour Plans (IBP);

- Individual Transition Plans (ITP); and

- Risk Management Plans (RMP).

Personalised learning

The way in which schools tailor education to enable every student to achieve the highest standard possible. The rationale for personalised learning is to raise standards by focusing teaching and learning programs on the aptitudes and interests of students.

Protective factors

Promote resilience and help to buffer groups and individuals against the adverse effects of stressful situations or risk factors. They refer to anything that prevents or reduces vulnerability for the development of a disorder.

Risk factors

Risk factors impact on individual and groups of students at educational risk.

Irregular school attendance, apart from being an indicator of other forms of risk, is a critical factor that can impact on student engagement, educational achievement and social integration within the school community.

Other risk factors may include, but are not limited to: socio economic status, family structures, medical/biological/genetic/cognitive factors, environmental factors (school, family and community), cultural and linguistic diversity (CaLD), and geographic location.

Students at educational risk

Students whose academic, social and/or emotional attributes are a barrier to engagement with the content and standards defined in the Western Australian Curriculum.

7. Related documents

Relevant legislation or authority

Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (Cth)

Disability Standards for Education 2005

Equal Opportunity Act 1984 (WA)

School Curriculum and Standards Authority Act 1997 (WA)

School Education Act 1999 (WA)

School Education Regulations 2000 (WA)

Related Department policies

Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting in Public Schools

Employee Performance

Enrolment in Public Schools

Gifted and Talented in Public Schools

School Improvement and Accountability in Public Schools

Student Attendance in Public Schools

Student Behaviour in Public Schools

Other documents

Support education planning for students (staff only)

General Agreement 2011(staff only)

Early Childhood Operational Handbook (staff only)

Early Years Learning Framework

Melbourne Declaration on Educational Goals for Young Australians 2008

Student Diversity and the Australian Curriculum (ACARA)

The School Education Act Employees' (Teachers and Administrators) General Agreement 2011 (staff only)

8. Contact information

Policy manager:

Director, Student Engagement and Wellbeing

T: (08) 9402 6100

Policy contact officer:

Principal Consultant, Student Engagement and Wellbeing

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9. History of changes

Effective date	1 January 2015
Last update date **Policy version no.**	2.0
Notes	Major review undertaken, Student at Educational Risk Policy and Procedures endorsed by Director General on 19 September 2014.

Effective date	1 January 2015
Last update date	11 August 2016
Policy version no.	2.1
Notes	Updated contact information D16/0522722

Effective date	1 January 2015
Last update date	3 November 2016
Policy version no.	2.2
Notes	Updated link to Documented Plans D16/0600426

Effective date	1 January 2015
Last update date	3 October 2018
Policy version no.	2.3
Notes	Minor changes to include reference to Public Schools D18/0151652 and updated legislation links D18/0207680.

Effective date	1 January 2015
Last update date	11 March 2020
Policy version no.	2.4
Notes	Minor change to contact information. D20/0130883

Effective date	1 January 2015
Last update date	4 October 2023
Policy version no.	2.5
Notes	Minor change to contact information D23/1582068

10. More information

Supporting content

Procedure

Students at Educational Risk in Public Schools Procedures

Policy review date

1 January 2018

Policy last updated

4 October 2023