



2016

QUEENSLAND:
**A STATE
OF LEARNING**

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Congratulations to the 366 Queensland state school communities that completed a school review in 2016. You've taken an important step on a much greater school improvement journey.

The school reviews are a wonderful opportunity for all members of the school community — parents, students, teachers and other staff — to have their say.

They're also a chance for schools to take stock and reaffirm their values and priorities, or to introduce new strategies and initiatives, based on the expert and independent feedback provided by reviewers.

The School Improvement Unit's second annual report, *Queensland: A state of learning*, shows where Queensland state schools are performing well and where they can continue to improve.

As noted in the executive summary, 'school improvement should be a permanent practice of all schools, including those that are performing well'.

The Queensland Government is committed to helping schools achieve this aim, investing a record \$9.8 billion in education in 2017–18.

We want our state schools to be among the best in the world.

The good news is we're heading in the right direction, with the most recent NAPLAN results confirming Queensland as one of the most improved education systems in Australia.

The release of this annual report will help schools continue to improve by providing them with quality research to inform their teaching and learning practices.

Congratulations to everyone involved.

The Honourable Kate Jones MP
Minister for Education



As educators, we know that the most successful students, teachers, schools and education systems continue to learn.

That's why the release of the second annual report by the School Improvement Unit (SIU) is such an important milestone for the department.

The report is a detailed analysis of the 366 school reviews the SIU completed in 2016. It builds on the SIU's first report, which was released last year.

The intention behind the annual reports is to build a robust, relevant and contextualised evidence base for Queensland state schools.

We no longer need to rely on research from overseas to learn about school improvement — we now have quality research and evidence drawn from our own backyard.

I am pleased to read in this year's report that our schools are achieving great outcomes in a number of important areas.

These include school leadership and vision, professional knowledge and collaboration, the collection and analysis of data, and — most importantly — student achievement and wellbeing.

The report also shows us that the extra support we're providing to schools that undertake a priority support review is paying off.

These schools are moving in the right direction and showing us what strategies work best in their local contexts.

I encourage all staff to read the report and to talk to their colleagues about what the findings mean for them and their school or work area, as well as Queensland's education system as a whole.

I look forward to seeing further progress in next year's report.

Dr Jim Watterston
Director-General

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