



# School reviews for Independent Public Schools

Independent Public Schools (IPS) are a valued part of the state's public education system and undertake the same review processes as all other Queensland state schools.

The reviews are conducted by the School Improvement Unit (SIU) and are an important part of how the department monitors and supports schools. Approximately a quarter of all Queensland state schools are reviewed each year.

Each school, including IPS, is reviewed by the SIU every four years. This ensures every school community has the same opportunity for self-reflection and improvement.

Schools are generally reviewed in the year that they are due to update their four-year strategic plan. Findings and feedback from the reviews are a valuable input into this process.

## Designating review type

There are three types of school reviews:

- **full school**, which is the default review type for Queensland state schools
- **priority support** for schools identified as needing additional support
- **self-determined** for schools identified as high performing.

The SIU designates all schools, including IPS, for the different types of reviews by first considering their performance data and then consulting with the school's regional office.

## Review process

Reviews are undertaken by experienced educators trained to use the *National School Improvement Tool*, a nationally-recognised framework for reviewing teaching and learning practices.

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 each school.

The review chair usually speaks to the school's assistant regional director before and during the review. For IPS, principals should inform the review chair of their regional representative.

At the end of the review, the review team presents its findings and improvement strategies to the principal, school leadership team and the regional representative. It is mandatory that a regional representative attends, in person where possible, the exit briefing for priority support reviews.

A written report follows which outlines key findings and improvement strategies to maximise student outcomes. Principals are encouraged to share this information with their staff and school community to help shape the school's strategic direction.

For priority support reviews, the principal works with their region to develop an action plan that outlines the key improvement strategies the school will implement, and any additional support it will receive, over the next 12 months.

## More information

For more information about school reviews please visit the School Reviews website at [www.schoolreviews.eq.edu.au](http://www.schoolreviews.eq.edu.au) or phone the SIU on (07) 3035 2217.