

Proclamation

Explanatory notes for SL 2016 No. 201

made under the
Education and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2016

General Outline

Authorising law

Section 2 of the *Education and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2016*.

Policy objectives and the reasons for them

The objective of the Proclamation is to commence provisions of the *Education and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2016* (the Act) that did not commence on assent.

On 8 September 2016, the Act received royal assent. The main objectives of the Act are to:

- make the Preparatory year the compulsory first year of school education in Queensland;
- improve the regulation of the teaching profession in Queensland by making a range of amendments, including to teacher registration and suspensions, the disciplinary framework and governance of the Queensland College of Teachers (the College);
- introduce statutory debt recovery mechanisms to recover State and Commonwealth funding paid to non-state schools in excess of their entitlement; and
- allow the Non-State Schools Accreditation Board to disclose relevant information to law enforcement agencies and reduce requirements for the provision of school survey data.

Achievement of policy objectives

The policy objectives of the Act will be achieved by commencing provisions of the Act that did not commence on assent.

In summary, the following provisions will commence on 1 January 2017 by Proclamation:

- amendments to the *Education (Queensland College of Teachers) Act 2005* relating to removing ‘returning to teaching’ conditions, governance changes and introducing a show cause process for breaches of a person’s full registration;
- amendments to the *Education (General Provisions) Act 2006* that did not commence on assent; and
- amendments to the *Education (Accreditation of Non-State Schools) Act 2001* that did not commence on assent.

The Proclamation will commence all remaining amendments to the *Education (Queensland College of Teachers) Act 2005* that did not commence on assent, on 1 July 2017.

Consistency with policy objectives of authorising law

The Proclamation is consistent with the objectives of the Act.

Inconsistency with policy objectives of other legislation

The Proclamation is consistent with the policy objectives of other legislation.

Benefits and costs of implementation

The commencement of particular provisions in the Act by Proclamation will not result in any additional costs to Government.

Consistency with fundamental legislative principles

The Proclamation is consistent with fundamental legislative principles.

Consultation

Key education stakeholders were consulted in the development of the Act. These included: Independent Schools Queensland (ISQ); the Queensland Catholic Education Commission (QCEC); the College, Non-State Schools Accreditation Board (NSSAB); teacher unions; parents and guardian associations; principal associations; early childhood and kindergarten representatives and universities.

The College and NSSAB were also consulted on the proposed commencement dates for the provisions to commence by Proclamation.

There was general support from all stakeholders for the Act. NSSAB and the College also support commencement dates to be set by Proclamation.

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