



Speech By Dr Christian Rowan

MEMBER FOR MOGGILL

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PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Education

Dr ROWAN (Moggill—LNP) (2.18 pm): This Friday, 27 October, is World Teachers' Day. It is a day when we all can celebrate and recognise the incredible and special role that Queensland teachers have in the lives of our students. As the LNP shadow minister for education, I wish to thank all of our hardworking Queensland teachers who go above and beyond each and every day. Our teachers across Queensland cannot be thanked enough for what they do. They certainly deserve recognition and appreciation. Importantly, Queensland teachers also deserve to be heard. They deserve a safe work environment and to be able to work within a system of education that supports them and works with them to deliver great results.

The Department of Education's annual report reveals that yet again not a single educational outcome target for reading, writing and numeracy was achieved for years 3, 5, 7 and 9. Under Labor, educational outcomes for Indigenous students across Queensland remain far worse than non-Indigenous students. Alarmingly, Labor is now actively keeping Queenslanders in the dark on the chaos and crisis that is plaguing our education system. Key accountability measures that used to be published in full have now been removed from the Department of Education's annual report, including: school attendance rates by region and demographics; learning days lost due to suspensions; retention rates of students in years 10 to 12; the proportion of young Queenslanders aged 15 to 24 years participating in full-time education and/or work; and parent satisfaction results.

It is clear that the Labor government is losing control of Queensland's education system, with teacher shortages, a broken student behavioural management framework, growing school maintenance issues and ballooning truancy as well as dismal education results. This is what happens when you have a state Labor government that does not have the right priorities for Queensland. This is what happens when a government fails to properly resource and manage our education system year after year. Queensland children and students are now paying the price for Labor's chaos and crisis.

Queensland students, parents, teachers and staff deserve a world-class education system—not a shambolic approach that is seeing student outcomes consistently behind other states. Twelve months from today Queenslanders will have a clear choice. They will be able to elect a Liberal National Party state government that will fix Labor's neglect of our education system, deliver greater transparency, focus on improving educational outcomes, invest in the vital school infrastructure that is needed, and ensure respect for our hardworking teachers and school staff.