

## Question on Notice

No. 2326

Asked on 1 December 2016

**MR BOOTHMAN** ASKED THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION AND MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND MAJOR EVENTS (HON K JONES)—

QUESTION:

With reference to school staff who have contacted me to express their serious concerns about the behaviour and actions of some students, parents and carers—

Will the Minister report the (a) number of assaults and verbal threats against school staff by not only students but also parents and carers across Queensland for the 2016 school year broken down by region and (b) amount of drug related incidents that have occurred on school properties within this same time period?

ANSWER:

All schools have a Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students, which is developed collaboratively with the school community. This includes the school's expectations about behaviour, details particular strategies to promote appropriate behaviour and outlines the range of disciplinary consequences for inappropriate behaviour.

In July 2016, I launched the *Respect our staff, respect our schools* campaign to encourage community members to work together to prevent abuse and violence being directed towards school staff. The campaign includes advertising, social media and posters, as well as community resources developed jointly with P&Cs Queensland to raise awareness in school communities and support staff dealing with hostile behaviour.

Principals have the power under the *Education (General Provisions) Act 2006* to prohibit persons from entering school facilities. Information about the number of prohibited persons is publicly available in the Department of Education and Training's Annual Report. The Department takes misconduct in schools extremely seriously and supports its principals in taking decisive action when dealing with any incident that occurs at their school.

Records of incidents resulting in suspensions or exclusions are kept relating to physical misconduct or incidents relating to verbal or non-verbal misconduct. This information is made publicly available at <http://education.qld.gov.au/schools/statistics/absences.html>.

I am advised the Department maintains data of suspensions or exclusions relating to 'substance misconduct involving an illicit substance'. This is also proactively published at the same website.