

## Question on Notice

No. 656

Asked on 22 June 2022

**MR J KRAUSE** asked the Minister for Children and Youth Justice and Minister for Multicultural Affairs (HON L LINARD)—

### QUESTION

Will the Minister provide the school attendance rate for children known to child safety (reported separately by region and year) for the last five years?

### ANSWER

The Department of Children, Youth Justice and Multicultural Affairs (DCYJMA) does not independently collect data on the school attendance for children known to child safety and draws on Department of Education data.

There is a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in place with the Department of Education which contains provisions for the exchange of information regarding school-aged children and young people subject to a child protection order granting custody or guardianship to the Chief Executive between both agencies for data collection, analysis and reporting purposes. The information exchange arrangement relates to students attending state schools only.

Student attendance rates for children in care who are enrolled in state schools is provided by the Department of Education at an aggregate level and is not available at a regional level.

Work is continuing with the Department of Education to further refine the exchange of information in relation to children in care.

The below data provides a comparison of children in care, to all Queensland state school students.

| Student attendance rates, by year, Queensland |                  |              |
|-----------------------------------------------|------------------|--------------|
| Year                                          | Children in Care | All Students |
| 2017                                          | 89.3%            | 91.5%        |
| 2018                                          | 88.9%            | 90.9%        |
| 2019                                          | 87.9%            | 90.5%        |
| 2020                                          | 86.7%            | 88.7%        |
| 2021                                          | 85.9%            | 88.9%        |

#### Notes:

1. The cohort of children 'known to Child Safety' is much broader than the cohort of students in care. The Department of Education is not able to identify every student 'known to Child Safety', and therefore cannot report on attendance rates for that cohort.
2. The above data compares the student attendance rate for students in care with the attendance rate for all students.
3. Attendance rates of full-time students only.
4. Students attending Queensland state schools only.
5. Children in care counts school-aged children subject to a child protection order granting custody or guardianship to the Chief Executive, at the commencement of the school reference year.