

Recipient Details

Name of organisation or individual: [I] Barnsby, Vicki

Reference Type: Parent and teacher

State or territory: WA

Serial Identification Number: 478076

Responses

Curriculum and assessment

University preparation course has been invaluable

Rating: 6

Teachers and teaching

Local professional learning for teachers to upskill is essential

Rating: 7

Leaders and leadership

Student leadership opportunities

Rating: 7

School and Community

Nurturing well informed staff are vital to student transitioning.

Rating: 7

Information and Communication Technology

Resources need to be continually updated and training offered to older teachers.

Rating: 7

Entrepreneurship and schools

Rating: 2

Improving access – enrolments, clusters, distance education and boarding

Cost is always a problem and distance from tertiary study.....moving away from home costs are limiting student access to education.

Rating for enrolments: 7

Rating for clusters: 7

Rating for distance education: 0

Rating for boarding: 7

Diversity

Rating: 7

Transitioning beyond school

Opportunities to transition would be fantastic....moving to the city is such a culture shock for students and families left behind.

Rating: 7

Additional Comments

COST seems to be the biggest factor. All students should be entitled to financial support....not just those on the poverty line. Parents with borderline incomes also require support as courses run for 3/4/5 yrs or so. It is a long time for parents to support living, travel, food expenses for their children. I have seen some students withdraw from study simply because their parents can't sustain the payments to them. Also students who drop out of courses cause Perth is too far away from their home town. Not all students want to leave home at the age of 17/18. More educational institutions in major country centres would help costs and family support of students moving away. Increasing threshold for Youth Allowance would help immensely and also increasing Youth Allowance payments to students would be beneficial, as not all students can find work in Perth or around their university. Rents are higher when accommodation is closer to university too. Country students moving to Perth are faced with enormous costs and need their families to support them. Supporting your children with travel, car, food and accommodation costs depletes the family budget for an extended period of time, particularly as there are usually other family members needing financial assistance with apprenticeships, car costs and living expenses. Country students require very good cars as they like to travel home when they can, so need reliable vehicles. If we want our students to receive further education then we (parents, governments) need to support them to do so.