Student Reporting

Do Schools need to comply?

Yes - under the provisions of the Australian Education Act 2013 (Cth).

Conditions of compliance:

Australian Government Regulations require that schools provide to parents, student reports on each child in Years 1-10 that comply with a number of criteria, as described below.

If you have to comply, what do you have to do?

School authorities must provide plain language student reports twice a year for each student in Years 1 to 10 to the person responsible for each child (such as parents or carers). The report must assess the student’s progress and achievement and must include an accurate and objective assessment of the student’s progress and achievement:

- Against any available national standards.
- Relative to the performance of the student’s peer group.
- Reported as A, B, C, D or E (or an equivalent five-point scale) for each subject studied, clearly defined against specific learning standards as determined by the relevant education authority.

The Government has stated that the intention of comparative performance reporting is to provide parents with an indication of the achievement of their child relative to other students in the cohort. There is no requirement to provide the comparison in a particular way to the school. Schools must retain a copy of all such written requests on file.

Individual parents may elect not to receive this type of reporting for their child via a written request.

The Department of Education (DoE) has confirmed the continuation of the following previously agreed modifications:

- Provide a statement that a student’s relative performance is available on request.
- Provide reports for students with disabilities against their individual learning plans.
- Accept the grading scheme of the International Baccalaureate as meeting Australian requirements.
- Adopt a plus or minus grading scheme (A+, A, A-) to expand on the A-to-E five-point scale.

If school authorities wish to vary arrangements or seek additional or further variations, they will need to seek approval from the Minister in writing.

What are the consequences if you don’t comply?

Independent schools receive funding from the Australian Government under the Australian Education Act (Cth) subject to the conditions which are set out in the Act and the accompanying regulations.

The student reporting requirements is a condition under the Act.
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Useful Links

Guide to the Australian Education Act 2013 – Student Reports.