

Tuesday 6th June 2022

National School Reform Agreement
Productivity Commission
Collins St East
Melbourne Vic 8003

Delivered via: Online submission

To the Productivity Commission,



**Queensland Advocacy for
Inclusion**

Advocacy for people with disability.

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Re: Review of the National School Reform Agreement

Queensland Advocacy for Inclusion (QAI) and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Legal Service (ATSILS) recently wrote to the Queensland Human Rights Commissioner (QHRC) publicly calling for an inquiry into the use of school disciplinary absences in Queensland state schools.

The report details our longstanding concern that students with disability and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students are being suspended and excluded from school more frequently than their peers. The report includes statistics obtained via a Right to Information request which show an unjustifiable and disproportionate use of school disciplinary absences among certain groups of students.

QAI believes that our report is relevant to the current review of the National School Reform Agreement. In particular, the examination of the barriers that disproportionately impact outcomes for specific cohorts of students. Accordingly, we attach a copy of our report to the QHRC as a submission to the present inquiry.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions at all.

Yours sincerely,

Matilda Alexander
Chief Executive Officer
Queensland Advocacy for Inclusion (QAI)