



Collection of Student Background Information

GUIDE FOR PARENTS AND GUARDIANS

Purpose of Data Collection and Reporting of Parental Occupation

In recent years the Australian and State Governments have asked all schools to collect and report on information regarding each student's background.

This information is being used to inform the government and public, especially the education community and parents, about progress towards achieving the two National educational goals for young Australians:

- Australian schooling promotes equity and excellence; and
- that all young Australians become successful learners, confident and creative individuals, and active and informed citizens

The national collection of data is necessary to monitor the effect that student background characteristics have on student outcomes and helps to direct resources to where they are most needed.

When enrolling a child in school all parents are asked which of the following options best describes their occupation, and the school education and non-school education levels they achieved.

Parental Occupation

A component of this information is Parental Occupation. Occupations are classified according to five categories:

Group A: Senior Management in large business organisations, government administration and defence, and qualified professionals.

Group B: Other business managers, arts/media/sportspersons and associate professionals

Group C: Tradesmen/women, clerks and skilled office, sales and service staff

Group D: Machine operators, hospitality staff, assistants, labourers and related workers

Group N: Not been in paid work in the past 12 months

This classification affects how schools are funded, so it is important that the information provided is accurate.

When this information is not provided, the parent occupation is deemed as Group A (which attract a lesser amount of funding). Information provided is confidential and is used and stored according to Privacy Regulations.



Funding Implications for Schools

Student Family Occupation derived from parental occupation data is an increasingly important component of funding. Schools receive a portion of their federal and state government funding based on this information.

Important points for parents to note

No individual student or school will be identifiable through published information.

All information which could identify, or would reasonably identify, students to whom particular background characteristics belong, is removed from national reports so that no personal information is reported publicly.

Data will be collected, stored and reported in accordance with privacy legislation requirements.

Further Information

Queries regarding the information in this brochure should be directed to the Administrative Office of your child's school. For further information on parental occupation coding, please refer to the Department of Education & Early Childhood Development website or follow this shortened link:

<http://goo.gl/bMvqvvy>



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