

NSW Public Schools Student Survey

Questionnaire 2025

Students participating in the 2025 NSW Public Schools Student Survey will see the following text and questions in the online platform, depending on their year level.

If you need help reading the survey, click the audio icon to hear it read aloud.



This survey is a chance for you to share what you think about your life at school. You'll be asked questions about how you feel about your learning, how you feel at school, and how things are going for you.

You can skip any questions you are not comfortable answering, and you can stop at any time. The only question you cannot skip is your school and year level.

The survey is confidential, which means no one at your school can see your answers, so please be as honest as you can.

What you share will help us understand what's going well and where we can make our school even better.

I understand and am ready to share what I think about life at school – **click Next to start.**

Question number	Question	Response options
Only asked in unlinked surveys to direct students to relevant questions.		
0a	The school I am doing this survey for is ...	[Start typing to find your school]
0b	I am in Year ...	[3–12]

Sense of belonging: Connectedness		
1	I am happy to be part of my school	• Strongly disagree • Disagree • Neutral • Agree • Strongly agree
2	I feel I belong at my school Help text: This means that you feel welcome and included at your school.	
3	I feel accepted at my school Help text: This means that people at your school like you for who you are, or that you feel okay just being you.	
4	I am proud to be part of my school Help text: This means you feel good about telling people you go to your school.	

Question number	Question	Response options
Sense of belonging: Supportive adult at school		
At my school, there is a teacher or other adult ...		
5	who knows me well	• Strongly disagree • Disagree • Neutral • Agree • Strongly agree
6	who cares about me	
7	who believes I can do well	

Inclusion		
8	I have a good friend at my school	• Strongly disagree • Disagree • Neutral • Agree • Strongly agree
R1	I see people like me in the things we learn in class Help text: This means that the people in the books you read or the things you work on in class reflect your background, culture and experiences.	
9	This year, I have participated in extra activities at school (for example, coding, gardening, music, dancing or sporting teams)	• Yes, every time there is an activity I like • Yes, but only some of the time • No
Not asked of students responding 'Yes, every time there is an activity I like' in Q9:		
9a	Why don't you participate in extra activities at school more often?	Tick all that apply • My school doesn't offer any extra activities like that • I'm not interested in the activities that are offered • I don't know how to join the activities • I'm not confident enough to join • I don't have enough time • They are not designed for people like me (for example, the rules or spaces don't suit my needs) • Other

Student voice		
10	My school cares about students' opinions on life at school Help text: This means that adults at your school are interested in your ideas on what you like or don't like at school, and how to make things better.	• Strongly disagree • Disagree • Neutral • Agree • Strongly agree
11	My school makes changes based on students' ideas and feedback	

Question number	Question	Response options
Motivation		
The next questions are about how you feel about learning at school. Think about all your subjects, not just one. Try to give an answer that shows how you feel most of the time .		
12	I believe I can do well in my schoolwork this year	• Strongly disagree • Disagree • Neutral • Agree • Strongly agree
13	What I learn in my schoolwork is important and useful	
14	I like learning and improving in my schoolwork	

Engagement		
15	I try my best to finish my schoolwork, even when it gets hard	• Strongly disagree • Disagree • Neutral • Agree • Strongly agree
16	When I get stuck with my schoolwork, I ask my teacher for help	
17	I usually pay attention in class	
18	I usually participate in classroom activities	

High expectations		
Questions 19 to 29 are asked in 2 different ways: 1. Primary students (P): reference to ‘my class teacher’, with response options: Never, Rarely, Sometimes, Often, Always 2. Secondary students (S): reference to ‘my teachers’ with response options: None of my teachers, Some of my teachers, Most of my teachers, All of my teachers For questions on high expectations for student behaviour, refer to Classroom management.		
19-P	My class teacher expects me to do my best	• Never • Rarely • Sometimes • Often • Always
20-P	My class teacher expects all students to do their best	
21-P	My class teacher encourages all students to keep improving	
22-P	My class teacher sets challenging learning goals Help text: Your teacher sets goals for you that may feel a little difficult at first but which you can do with practice and effort, like learning new tricky words or solving a maths problem.	

Question number	Question	Response options
19-S	My teachers expect me to do my best	• None of my teachers • Some of my teachers • Most of my teachers • All of my teachers
20-S	My teachers expect all students to do their best	
21-S	My teachers encourage all students to keep improving	
22-S	My teachers set challenging learning goals Help text: Your teachers set goals for you that may feel a little difficult at first but which you can do with practice and effort, like giving a speech or solving a new maths problem.	

Feedback		
23-P	My class teacher gives me feedback to let me know how I can improve my schoolwork	• Never • Rarely • Sometimes • Often • Always
24-P	My class teacher gives me time to act on their feedback	
25-P	My class teacher's feedback helps me learn and improve	
23-S	My teachers give me feedback to let me know how I can improve my schoolwork	• None of my teachers • Some of my teachers • Most of my teachers • All of my teachers
24-S	My teachers give me time to act on their feedback	
25-S	My teachers' feedback helps me learn and improve	

Classroom management		
26-P	My class teacher sets clear rules and high expectations for classroom behaviour	• Never • Rarely • Sometimes • Often • Always
27-P	My class teacher keeps our classroom calm when we need to focus on learning	
28-P	If someone breaks the rules, my class teacher makes sure there are consequences	
26-S	My teachers set clear rules and high expectations for classroom behaviour	• None of my teachers • Some of my teachers • Most of my teachers • All of my teachers
27-S	My teachers keep our classroom calm when we need to focus on learning	
28-S	If someone breaks the rules, my teachers make sure there are consequences	

Question number	Question	Response options
Same question asked of students in both primary and secondary schools:		
29	My school expects me to behave and follow the rules	• Never • Rarely • Sometimes • Often • Always

Explicit teaching

Questions 30 to 34 are asked in 2 different ways:

1. Primary students (P): reference to 'my class teacher'

2. Secondary students (S): reference to 'my [English/Maths/Science] teacher', with students randomly allocated to respond about one subject

Only asked of students in Years 11 and 12, for routing in Questions 30 to 34:

0c	I am currently taking ...	Tick all that apply • English • Maths • Science subject(s) • All 3 subjects
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Asked of all students:

30	My [class/English/Maths/Science] teacher tells me what we are learning and why	• Never • Rarely • Sometimes • Often • Always
31	When we learn something new, my [class/English/Maths/Science] teacher connects it to what I already know	
32	When we learn something new, my [class/English/Maths/Science] teacher shows me how to do it	
33	My [class/English/Maths/Science] teacher checks to see if I have understood what we are learning	
34	My [class/English/Maths/Science] teacher makes sure I have enough time to practise what I have learnt before we move on to new things	

Question number	Question	Response options
Transitions, aspirations and pathways		
Only asked of students in Years 5 and 6:		
35a	I feel good about going to high school	• Strongly disagree • Disagree • Neutral • Agree • Strongly agree
Only asked of students in Years 3 to 6:		
36a	I have ideas about what I want to be or do when I grow up	• Strongly disagree • Disagree • Neutral • Agree • Strongly agree
Only asked of students in Years 7 and 8:		
35b	Since starting high school, I feel like I have settled in well with ...	Tick all that apply • my social life (for example, making new friends) • the routines (for example, new classrooms and timetables and having many different teachers) • how I learn (for example, homework and classwork, having many different subjects) • I don't feel I have settled well into high school
Only asked of students in Years 7 to 12:		
36b	I aim to complete Year 12	• Strongly disagree • Disagree • Neutral • Agree • Strongly agree

Question number	Question	Response options
Only asked of students in Years 11 and 12 who respond 'Neutral to Strongly Agree' in Q36b:		
36c	I am currently working to ...	Tick all that apply • achieve a Higher School Certificate (HSC) • receive an Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank (ATAR) • receive an early offer for university entry • complete a School Based Apprenticeship or Traineeship (SBAT) • complete a Vocational Education and Training (VET) certificate (for example, Certificate II in Electrotechnology, Statement of Attainment in Hospitality) • I'm not sure • None of the above
Only asked of students in Years 10 to 12 who respond 'Strongly Disagree to Disagree' in Q36b:		
36d	Why are you thinking about leaving school before completing Year 12?	Tick all that apply • I plan to get an equivalent Year 12 qualification somewhere else • School work is not relevant to my future study or work goals • School work is not interesting • I'm not learning anything at school • School is not challenging me enough • I think I will learn better somewhere else (for example, on the job, TAFE, YouTube) • School work is too stressful • I have been bullied or treated badly by other students • I want to start working • I need to support my family • I need to care for a family member • I can't afford to stay in school • I need to take care of my health • I don't like school • Other • I'm not thinking about leaving school

Question number	Question	Response options
Asked of all students in Years 7 to 12:		
37	After leaving school, my next plan includes ...	Tick all that apply • TAFE • an apprenticeship or traineeship to train for a job (for example, hairdresser, electrician) • university • work as my main activity • work to support my further study • taking a gap year • volunteering • being a carer (for example, care for siblings or relatives) • Not sure yet • None of the above
Only asked of students in Years 9 and 10:		
38a	My school helps me set goals for my future study or work pathways	• Strongly disagree • Disagree • Neutral • Agree • Strongly agree
38b	My school offers subjects that are related to my future study or work goals	
Only asked of students in Years 10 to 12:		
38c	I feel well informed about the future study and work options available to me when I leave school	• Strongly disagree • Disagree • Neutral • Agree • Strongly agree
R2	I feel confident that I can achieve my goals after I finish school	
R3	What are the main influences for your aspirations and pathways?	Tick all that apply • Career advisors • Principals or teachers • Traditional media, for example newspapers or television • Social media, for example Instagram or TikTok • Parents/carers • Own interests • Other • I don't know

Question number	Question	Response options
School infrastructure		
Asked of all students, with differing response options: ^ Option only shown to students in regional, rural and remote schools. * Option only shown for Year 7 to 12 students.		
39	These spaces are clean and well looked after at my school:	Tick all that apply • Toilets • Classroom • Outdoor play areas • Library • Online learning spaces for distance learning class^ • Specialist learning spaces (for example, Science, technology, creative arts)* • Other parts of the school (for example, hallways or canteen) • All of the above spaces are clean and well looked after • None of the above spaces are clean and well looked after
40	These spaces are good for learning at my school:	Tick all that apply • Library • Outdoor spaces • Classroom – it is the right size and shape • Classroom – it has suitable furniture • Classroom – it has suitable technology and equipment • Specialist learning spaces (for example, Science, technology, creative arts spaces) – they have the right size, shape, furniture and equipment* • Online learning spaces for distance learning class^ • All of the above are good for learning at my school • None of the above spaces are good for learning at my school
41	I enjoy using the outdoor spaces at my school to ...	Tick all that apply • learn • be with friends • be by myself • relax / take a break • be active / play sports • be creative / imaginative • be in nature • All of the above • None of the above

Question number	Question	Response options
Bullying		
42a–d	At my school this year , someone has on purpose ...	
42a	said mean things or called me names	• Not this year • Once this year • A few times this year • About once a week • Several times a week or more
42b	left me out of things on purpose or spread lies about me	
42c	hurt or threatened me	
42d	picked on me in any way online or on social media	
42e	At my school this year , I have experienced the behaviours described in the previous question ...	Tick all that apply • This did not happen to me • in the classroom • in the toilets • in the outdoor areas (for example, oval or playground) • in the library • in other parts of the school (for example, hallways, lockers or canteen) • on the way to or from school • online by students at my school • from a teacher or another staff member • somewhere else • None of the above
43a	I know where I can go for support at my school if I am being bullied or if I see someone else being bullied	• Yes • No
43b	My school deals fairly with bullying	• Strongly disagree • Disagree • Neutral • Agree • Strongly agree

Discrimination		
Discrimination is when someone is treated unfairly or differently just because of something about them , like where they are from, the colour of their skin, the language they speak, their religion or spirituality, a disability or their gender (for example boy, girl).		
44	I have experienced discrimination at my school this year	• This did not happen to me • Once or twice • Every few weeks • About once a week • Several times a week or more

Question number	Question	Response options
Not asked of students responding 'This did not happen to me' in Q44: * Option only shown for Years 7 to 12 students.		
44a	At my school this year, I have experienced discrimination because of my ...	Tick all that apply • culture, skin colour or the language I speak • religious or spiritual beliefs • disability • gender • sexuality* • I have not experienced discrimination
44b	At my school this year, I have experienced discrimination ...	Tick all that apply • in the classroom • in the toilets • in the outdoor areas (for example, oval or playground) • in the library • in other parts of the school (for example, hallways, locker or canteen) • on the way to or from school • online by students at my school • from a teacher or another staff member • somewhere else
Asked of all students:		
45	I know where I can go for support at my school if I experience discrimination or if I see it happening to someone else	• Yes • No

Demographics

Your answers to the following questions help us understand how different groups feel and make sure our school is fair and welcoming for everyone.

46	I am a ...	• Boy • Girl • Other
47	Are you Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander?	• No • Yes, Aboriginal • Yes, Torres Strait Islander • Yes, both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander

Question number	Question	Response options
Only asked of students identifying as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander in Q47:		
47a	I feel good about my culture when I am at school	• Strongly disagree • Disagree • Neutral • Agree • Strongly agree
47b	My teachers have a good understanding of my culture	
R4	This year, my personalised learning pathways (PLP) plan is valuable in helping me with my goals Help text: Your PLP plan supports your academic, social/emotional, wellbeing and cultural needs and may be called a different name.	• Yes • No • I don't know

Additional rotating questions 2025		
R5	Which of the following best describes your culture or cultural background?	Tick all that apply • Australian • Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander • Pacific Islander (for example, Fijian, Samoan, Tongan) • African (for example, Egyptian, Sudanese, Moroccan, Zimbabwean) • Anglo-Celtic (for example, British, Scottish, English, Irish) • Asian (for example, Chinese, Korean, Japanese, Thai, Vietnamese) • European (for example, French, Greek, Italian, Polish, Swedish) • Middle Eastern (for example, Lebanese, Iraqi, Turkish) • South American (for example, Argentinian, Brazilian, Chilean) • South Asian (for example, Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi, Nepali) • Other • I don't know • I prefer not to say
Only asked of students in Years 7 to 12:		
R6	My school manages the mobile phone ban effectively	• Strongly disagree • Disagree • Neutral • Agree • Strongly agree

Question number	Question	Response options
R7	The mobile phone ban ...	Tick all that apply • has improved my learning at school • has reduced classroom distractions • has improved my social life at school • has improved what school is like for me • None of the above
R8	My school manages the ban on vaping effectively	• Strongly disagree • Disagree • Neutral • Agree • Strongly agree

Thank you for taking part in this survey. Please click **Complete** to save your responses.

Questions about bullying and discrimination can be upsetting. If you feel worried or sad about bullying and discrimination, it's important to talk to someone. If you need someone to listen or help you, please talk to a teacher, school counsellor, your parents, carers or another adult you trust.

If you can't talk to someone face-to-face, you can contact [Kids Helpline](#). You can call them for free on 1800 55 1800. If you are experiencing cyberbullying, you can report this to the [eSafety Commissioner](#). Remember, it is important to look after your own wellbeing. For more information visit [mental health resources](#) and [wellbeing services](#).