



# Review of senior secondary pathways

## About

The Review of senior secondary pathways is one of eight national policy initiatives in the [National School Reform Agreement](#), which support three reform directions:

- Supporting students, student learning and student achievement
- Supporting teaching, school leadership and school improvement
- Enhancing the national evidence base.

The Review considered how students can be better supported to understand and be enabled to choose the most appropriate pathway to support their transition into work, further education and/or training.

The Review was led by an expert panel chaired by Professor Peter Shergold AC.

## Consultation

The Review panel consulted with a broad range of stakeholders from September 2019 to March 2020 through face to face meetings, events, workshops, school visits forums and written feedback and submissions. The panel heard from young people, experts and specific priority groups, including students with disability, students from rural and remote area, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students. Consultation was supported by a discussion paper and background paper to contextualise the [Terms of Reference](#).

## Project milestones

The Review commenced in June 2019 and investigated higher education entrance requirements, barriers to equitable access of pathways to work, and best practice options

for students transitioning between senior secondary years and from school into work, training or further study.

The panel presented the final report, [Looking to the Future: Report of the Review of senior secondary pathways into work, further education and training](#) to Education Ministers in June 2020. The report was published on 23 July 2020.

The expert panel commissioned a number of research pieces to inform the Review:

- [Longitudinal Surveys of Australian Youth \(LSAY\) analysis: literature review \(NCVER\)](#)
  - [LSAY analysis: supplementary report](#)
  - [LSAY analysis: full reference list](#)
- [Perceptions of Apprenticeships \(The Behavioural Insights Team\)](#)
- [Regional & Rural Living Survey \(Year 13\)](#).

## Response

Education Ministers agreed with all 20 of the report's recommendations in-principle, and in December 2020, Ministers agreed on an approach and workplan for the priority recommendations.

Recognising the significant amount of related work currently being progressed, Education Ministers will focus on areas that can be actioned immediately and that address potential gaps in current activity, including:

- literacy, numeracy and digital literacy;



Australian Government  
Department of Education,  
Skills and Employment

- developing a sample Learner Profile;
- agreeing a common language for skills and capabilities.

Further priorities, including improving career guidance and education and development of a

national strategy on vocational education and training delivered to secondary students, will be progressed jointly with Skills Ministers.

**More information**

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