

Senate Standing Committees on Education and Employment

The national trend of school refusal and related matters QUESTION ON NOTICE

Outcome: Schools

Department of Education Question No. IQ23-000030

The Committee provided in writing.

Complex factors that influence student absenteeism

Question

1. What work has been done to understand the complex factors that influence student absenteeism, particularly into the growing trend of school refusal?
 - a) Has the Department been tasked with undertaking any work to investigate this?

Answer

At the 27 February 2023 Education Ministers Meeting, Education Ministers commissioned the Australian Education Research Organisation to investigate the causes of declining student attendance and provide advice to Ministers on evidence-based approaches that support attendance. The initial findings of this work are expected to be provided to Ministers in late 2023.