



# Terms of Reference

## Legislative Council Legal and Social Issues Committee

### Inquiry into the State Education System in Victoria

**On 17 May 2023, the Legislative Council agreed to the following motion:**

That this House requires the Legal and Social Issues Committee to inquire into, consider and report, by 25 June 2024, on the Victorian education system across government schools, including —

- (1) trends in student learning outcomes from Prep to Year 12, including but not limited to —
  - (a) the factors, if any, that have contributed to decline;
  - (b) disparities correlated with geography and socio-economic disadvantage;
- (2) the state of the teaching profession in Victoria, including but not limited to —
  - (a) the adequacy of existing measures to recruit and retain teachers;
  - (b) training, accreditation and professional development, particularly for teaching students with special needs;
  - (c) the adequacy of the Department of Education's measures to support teachers;
  - (d) the impact of school leadership on student wellbeing, learning outcomes and school culture;
- (3) the current state of student wellbeing in Victoria, including but not limited to the impact of State Government interventions, following the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, to address poor mental health in students, school refusal, and broader student disengagement;
- (4) the administrative burden on teachers and the availability of new technologies to alleviate the burden;
- (5) examples of best practice in other jurisdictions and educational settings used to improve student learning outcomes and wellbeing; and
- (6) school funding adequacy and its impact on student learning outcomes and wellbeing.