

Employing authority notifications

INFORMATION SHEET

Advising the Queensland College of Teachers under s76, s77 & s78 of the *Education (Queensland College of Teachers) Act 2005*.

The Queensland College of Teachers (QCT) is established under the *Education (Queensland College of Teachers) Act 2005* (the Act) as the agency responsible for the regulation of the teaching profession in Queensland. The Act confers on the QCT functions about the registration of teachers in Queensland and related matters such as taking disciplinary action against relevant teachers and monitoring and enforcing compliance with the Act.

An employing authority for a prescribed school means the person or entity responsible for the appointment of teachers to the educational staff of the school. Employing authorities are required to notify the QCT of particular investigations, and dismissals under sections 76, 77 and 78 of the Act.

The QCT will assess all information and determine whether it will commence disciplinary proceedings against the teacher, including whether or not it will conduct any investigation in the matter/s.

Section 81 of the Act provides protection from liability for employing authorities giving the required notices. If an employing authority gives a notice as required the employing authority is not liable, civilly, criminally or under an administrative process, for disclosing information contained in the notice.

The following questions and the **Guidelines for Employing Authority Notifications** (the guide) will assist an employing authority to determine if a notification is required to be given to the QCT.

If an employing authority answers no to all of the following questions, an employing authority may consider making a complaint about a teacher information sheet.

1. Does the notice relate to an employing authority investigating an allegation of harm caused, or likely to be caused to a child because of the conduct of a teacher?

Yes/No

If yes, go to the guide for 'Investigations' and provide any relevant information that you may hold as indicated. This is a notification required under section 76 of the Act.

2. Does the notice relate to an employing authority investigation that has ended for any reason and the investigation was regarding an allegation of harm caused, or likely to be caused, to a child because of the conduct of a teacher?

Yes/No

If yes, go to the guide for 'Investigations Ended' and provide any relevant information that you may hold as indicated. This is a notification required under section 77 of the Act.

3. Does the notice relate to the employing authority dismissing a teacher in circumstances that, in the opinion of the employing authority, call into question the teacher's competency to be employed as a teacher and that the employing authority is not required to give notice to QCT about the dismissal under section 76 or 77?

Yes/No

If yes, go to the guide for 'Other Dismissals' and provide information that you may hold as indicated. This is a notification required under section 78 of the Act.

Should you have any questions or require assistance contact the QCT's Professional Conduct Unit.

Forward notifications and any relevant attachments to:

The Principal Investigator
Queensland College of Teachers
PO Box 389
Toowong Qld 4066

Email: professionalconductunit@qct.edu.au

DEFINITIONS

Prescribed school: (a) a State school or non-State school; (b) another institution or place, or part of an institution or place, at which an educational program is offered that is based on—
(i) the national curriculum developed and administered by the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority under the *Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority Act 2008* (Cwlth); or
(ii) a syllabus developed, revised or purchased for a senior subject or P-10 subject by the Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority under the *Education (Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority) Act 2014*.

Harm: Harm, to a child, is any detrimental effect of a significant nature on the child's physical, psychological or emotional wellbeing. It is immaterial how the harm is caused. Harm can be caused by physical, psychological or emotional abuse or neglect; or sexual abuse or exploitation. Harm can be caused by a single act, omission or circumstance; or a series or combination of acts, omissions or circumstances.

Contact us

07 3377 4777

PO Box 389
Toowong Qld 4066 Australia

