

QUEENSLAND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS COMMISSION

Industrial Relations Act 2016 s 261 – Notice of Industrial Dispute

Together Queensland, Industrial Union of Employees v State of Queensland (Department of Education)

(Matter No. D/2022/7)

INDUSTRIAL COMMISSIONER KNIGHT

RECOMMENDATIONS

Following a dispute in relation to concerns raised by Together Queensland, Industrial Union of Employees, and supported by the United Workers' Union, with respect to the 'Back to School Plan 2022' implemented by the State of Queensland (Department of Education), particularly as it relates to the provision of rapid antigen tests, personal protective equipment and a work, health and safety risk assessment regarding employees returning to work onsite, the Commission recommends:

1. The Department of Education, in consultation with the relevant Unions, has agreed to conduct a risk assessment in relation to the Back to School Plan 2022.
2. The Department of Education has been, and will continue to be, guided by health advice in relation to COVID-19 matters, including the risk assessment.
3. The Department of Education and relevant Unions have agreed to continue discussions following the risk assessment being undertaken, and to review the risk assessment on a regular basis.
4. The Department of Education take all reasonable steps to clarify and consider the proposed framework dealing with the provision of rapid antigen tests in schools as advanced by Together Queensland, Industrial Union of Employees and the United Workers' Union.

Dated 4 February 2022

M. L. KNIGHT
Industrial Commissioner

