

## **Measuring Student Wellbeing**

In 2016, a pilot project was initiated in Government Schools in Western Australia to measure student wellbeing to help identify the needs of students and provide information to help schools engage with children and their communities through practical responses. This pilot proved very successful and there is now an opportunity for Independent schools to participate as well.

Over the last five years, we at South Australia's Department for Education have designed and used the WEC to measure the wellbeing and engagement of every middle years student in the SA public education system. Our learnings have since been applied to schools across Australia (WA, VIC, QLD, NSW) and internationally in Slovenia, Northern Ireland and Dubai, in all covering 1000 schools and 250,000 students.

The WEC provides you with evidence directly from students to monitor, guide and build their wellbeing, acknowledging the growing recognition of how measuring student wellbeing helps in building the social-emotional and self-regulation skills they will need in adult life.

*The price of our service is \$5 per student, and covers the following:*

- Administrative materials – parent letter, administration guide, unique tokens for each student to complete wellbeing collection
- The collection instrument
- Privacy protocols that allow for identifiable URL data
- Opening the survey platform for students to complete the Wellbeing and Engagement Collection
- Technical support during the collection period
- Cleaning and processing of data
- Generating a standard school report (see attached example) – whole student cohort at each school presented against responses for all other students (i.e. your students responses could be compared against responses from South Australia)
- Student data broken down by gender and/or year level

Quality, scientific rigour, privacy protection and harm minimisation have all been factored into the program's design. Accordingly, we provide a suite of integrated services tailored to the needs of partners, privacy requirements, data collection management and report development.

The attached fact sheet provides further information on the collection. Additional information can be found on the Department for Education website:

<https://www.education.sa.gov.au/departments/research-and-data/wellbeing-and-engagement-collection/about-wellbeing-and-engagement-collection>

Our current collection covers students from Year 4 to Year 9 (age 9 to 14/15), however we have also opened this to senior students (Years 10-12).

We run our whole-of-system wellbeing collection from late July through to the end of September each year. This provides sufficient time for us to clean the data and produce school reports for delivery by early November.