

2021 TASC Student Survey Findings

WHO WE HEARD FROM

1596 of Tasmania's senior secondary students.

WHAT WE HEARD

Current Year 11 and 12 students identified a range of challenges they are experiencing that are impacting on their senior secondary education. Some circumstances and barriers are temporary, others longer term.

What makes it hard for you to do well at school?



Physical/mental health

Grades/marks

Not knowing what I really want to do

Not knowing what jobs will be available

Not interesting

Learning environment

Work commitments

28% Feeling like an outsider/don't fit in

21% Living arrangements

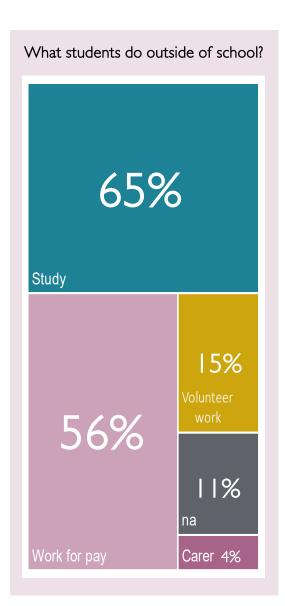
Transport | wanting to start a full-time job | family obligations | not regularly attending

16% Living expenses away from home

13% Friends don't encourage it | access to IT/technology

10% Family don't encourage it

6% Speaking a different language at home







IN THEIR OWN WORDS

177 students shared additional information about 'What makes it hard for you to do well at school?'. Student responses were largely across seven themes.



Health

"Motivation, loneliness, worrying about own mother's mental health. Worried even my best is not good enough. My time management isn't the greatest either. I'm too shy/embarrassed to ask for help. I'm slow. I always feel like I need someone to double-check me. No matter what I'm doing, I always need reassurance."



Time

"Not having enough time to study as much as I want and trying to balance my social life with school, work, and sport is difficult."



Education system

"Not getting support for my learning disability."



School environment

"People interrupting the class."

"Subjects I'm interested in."





Other

"Not being allowed to do English as an Additional Language (EAL) after 6 years in Australia."



Pressur

"The pressure makes it so hard for me to do well. Yes, I do get good marks, but it's just so hard to continuously do well when we are given so so so much

work to do, and so many criteria to meet, and so many expectations. I feel like school isn't really about actual, real, proper learning anymore, it's just a game of memory.

I get so much work that I never really have any time to do things that I want to do. It's constantly just thinking about school work or doing school work, and it's just not good for me and my health, or not good for anyone. There's so much to do, that it's so hard to keep motivated."



Home life

"I need extra support and it's hard to get to school on time as I have no one to rely on but myself and sometimes I am too tired to walk and sometimes walking isn't an option."





Amplifying the voice of senior secondary students.

Thank you for so frankly and honestly sharing the challenges you are experiencing.

Knowing what is having a negative impact is a first step towards addressing these issues and developing an education system that supports all students to be able to do their very best at school. These findings are being shared broadly with schools, education sectors and organisations across Tasmania that shape education provision and the supports for young people.

If you have circumstances which are affecting your schooling, know that you are not alone and do reach out to those at your school so they can support you.

