

Country Education Partnership Submission

Inquiry into disruption in Australian school classrooms

Country Education Partnership (CEP) is a not for profit member based organisation that represents and advocates for rural schools across Victoria.

CEP has established, where there is stable leadership, proactive relationships with parents and an ability to retain high quality staff, the disruptive influences in schools are reduced.

In regards to the Year 9 cohort specifically, a significant number of Victorian rural schools are instigating innovative practices, modifying programs and linking students to the community, to improve the quality of their Year 9 programs.

In instances where the school/ parent relationships are not functioning effectively, the disruptive issues within the class and the school remain and as a result, have significant impact on students, the school staff and the Principal. This has often resulted in individuals seeking alternative careers and families seeking alternative school settings, often relocating students to major regional centres.

Where disruptive issues remain an issue, CEP believes the following would have a positive impact:

- 1. Reducing the bureaucratic barriers preventing better collaboration between education and health sectors
- 2. Redesigning the allied health support models for government services in rural locations





- 3. Teacher training programs to include trauma informed practice and poverty based training as mandatory components of study
- 4. Teacher training programs to have increased place-based classroom management ingrained into the programs
- 5. Teacher training programs to utilise the experience of high quality experienced educators in short term secondment roles.

CEP believes the success stories of many rural education settings are not promoted, shared or celebrated. As a result, their learnings are not being replicated in other settings.

CEP March 2023

Mark McLay

CEO

Country Education Partnership

A leading voice on rural education