

# Direct Instruction: What it means for parents



Our vision at Good to Great Schools Australia is 'Great Teachers delivering effective instruction and every child reaching their full potential'. Direct Instruction (DI) helps schools deliver this vision as it ensures students learn faster, more efficiently and more effectively.

## What is Direct Instruction?

Direct Instruction is an education program that uses set lessons that the teacher follows. It was developed for students with high needs including those who don't have English as their first language.

*...Direct Instruction gets the students to take responsibility for learning, to pay attention in class, get the lessons done, do the tests and pass them. They really participate.*

– Cheryl Cannon, Former Deputy Principal

## Key features of Direct Instruction

- It covers all the basics of literacy and numeracy to Year 5 and is aligned to the Australian curriculum
- All lessons are completed in class under teacher supervision, so no homework
- Students are tested weekly so teachers know exactly how well students are understanding the lessons
- Students are grouped by learning level rather than age so they are all learning at the same pace and no one is left behind
- Only 10 per cent of new material is introduced in each lesson and students master each lesson before moving onto the next one
- Students with disabilities and learning disorders are supported
- All DI materials are supplied by the school



Direct Instruction is working well in Cape York schools (Aurukun, Coen and Hope Vale). Students are more excited and confident, and their learning is improving. This is happening because our 'No Excuses' approach means everybody – principals, teachers, parents, students and the community – take responsibility for ensuring our children do well in school.

## What you can do to support your child

### Why attendance is so important

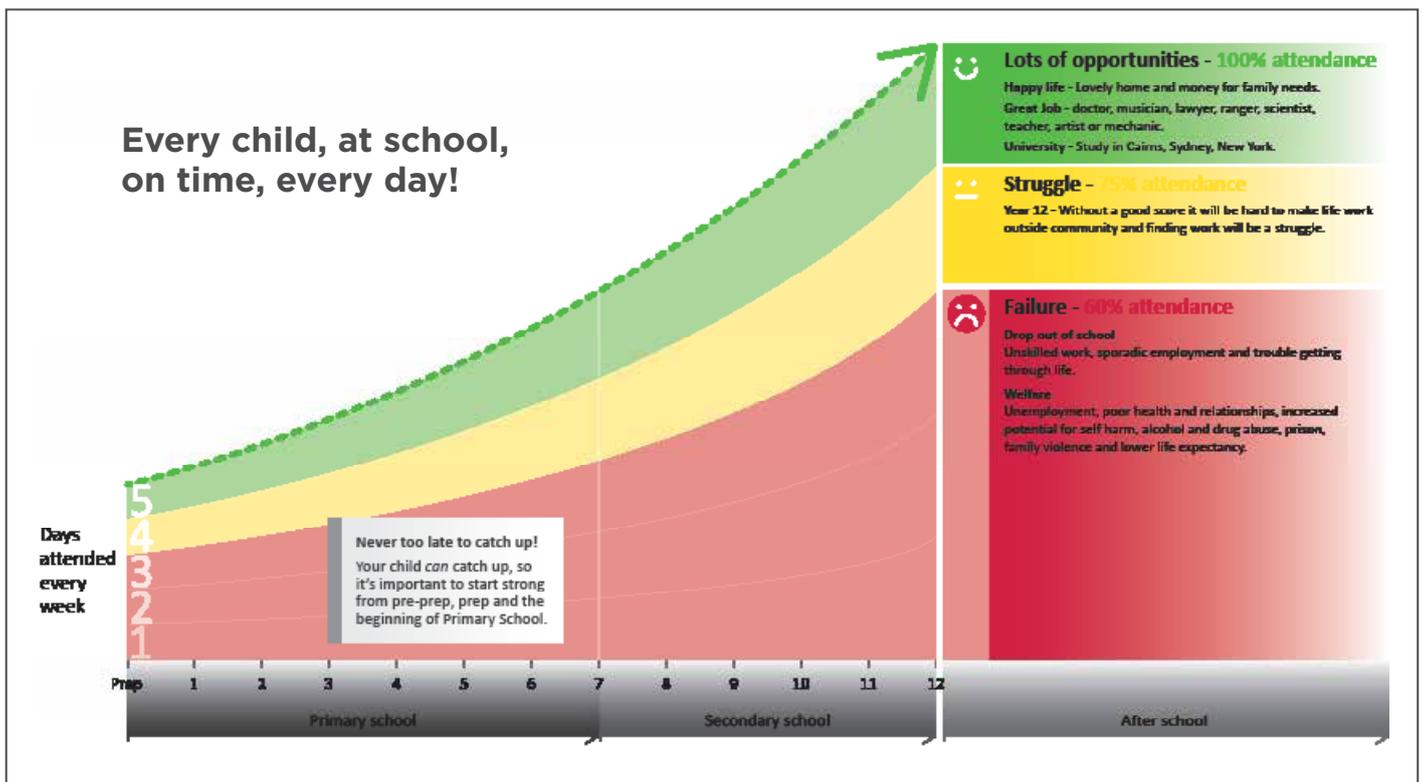
Parents have a big impact on their child's level of education success. If you treat school seriously, so will your child.

The single most important thing that you can do to secure a future for your child is to make sure they turn up to school every day.

If your child misses 'only' one day a week throughout their school life, that means them missing a whole year of school. Even missing one day a week makes it difficult for them to keep up.

## ! Ways to support your child

- **Provide breakfast** – children need nourishment to learn
- **Be school ready** – students who have all their uniform and school supplies feel better prepared and confident at school
- **Be positive** – have a positive attitude towards school
- **Be consistent** – try to avoid changing schools (especially during term time), but let the school know if you are planning to move
- **Read at home** – this can really help give your child a head start at school
- **Stay informed** – students are tested every week so get to know your teacher and stay informed about your child's progress



## Your child's education through Direct Instruction

For more information about Direct Instruction, please contact your school principal or go to [www.goodtogreatschools.org.au](http://www.goodtogreatschools.org.au)

## Contact us

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