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Don't judge Queensland schools on OP results alone, say educators

Tanya Chilcott

EDUCATORS are unanimously urging parents not to use today's release of OP results to judge and compare schools.

The 2010 Year 12 outcomes report shows a wide variation of the number of OP-eligible students per school.

Independent Schools Queensland executive director David Robertson said that while ISQ was proud of how their schools performed, OPs didn't paint a complete picture of education.

"We recommend parents also look at a range of factors when choosing schools, including a school's curriculum, programs and extra-curricular activities," Mr Robertson said.

BEST-PERFORMERS

HIGHEST PERCENTAGE OF OPI-5

School	No. of OPI-5s	OP-eligible students	% of OPI-5
Somerville House	60	129	46.5
Brisbane Grammar School	112	243	46.1
Brisbane Girls Grammar School	96	230	41.7
Brisbane Boys' College	66	161	41
St Joseph's Gregory Terrace	75	185	40.5
Somerset College	40	100	40
Whitsunday Anglican School	23	58	39.7
Matthew Flinders Anglican College	46	121	38
The Rockhampton Grammar School	44	117	37.6
Centenary Heights State High School	28	77	36.4

Queensland Teachers Union president Steve Ryan said it would be "ludicrous" to compare schools on the basis of OP results.

"I could take you to schools that have no OPI to 5s and the education in those schools is absolutely superb," he said. Queensland Catholic Edu-

HIGHEST PERCENTAGE OF OPI-15

(More than 50 eligible students)

School	% of OPI-15%	OP-eligible students
Brisbane Boys' College	97%	161
Narangba Valley State High School	96%	94
Brisbane Girls Grammar School	95%	230
Sheldon College	95%	106
Brisbane Grammar School	94%	243
All Hallows' School	94%	201
Ipswich Girls Grammar School	94%	81
St Aidan's Anglican Girls' School	94%	78
Somerville House	93%	129
Matthew Flinders Anglican College	93%	121

cation Commission executive director Mike Byrne also said OPs should not be considered in isolation.

"Catholic schools aim to de-

velop the whole person, including faith and values, and focus on supporting each student to reach their full potential in all areas of their lives," he said.

Queensland Secondary Principals Association president Norm Fuller said a good school was one that helped every child reach their full potential.

This year's report also does not contain the number or percentage of students who achieved an OPL.

That is despite the State Government's Queensland Academies advertising they achieved the state's highest Year 12 academic outcomes in 2010 with 33 per cent of students achieving an OPI-equivalent.

The 2010 outcomes report shows between 82 per cent and 93 per cent of their graduates attained an International Baccalaureate Diploma last year.