1. The Education Legislation Amendment Bill 2012 will amend legislation administered by the Department of Education, Training and Employment to provide for the following matters.
2. The Bill amends the *Education (General Provisions) Act 2006* to enable State Schools of Distance Education to deliver e-kindy to eligible children. E-kindy is a kindergarten program delivered via distance education to children unable to regularly attend a centre-based kindergarten program because of their geographical isolation, medical condition or itinerant lifestyle.
3. The *Education and Training Legislation Amendment Act 2011* amended the *Education (General Provisions) Act 2006* to expand existing reporting requirements so that school staff are required to report to police suspected sexual abuse perpetrated by any person, not just employees, as well as a likelihood of future sexual abuse.
4. The Bill amends the *Education and Training Legislation Amendment Act 2011* to ensure section 204 of the *Criminal Code* will not apply to a failure to report a likelihood of future sexual abuse so that staff members are not liable to be prosecuted for a failure to report. The intention of the *Education and Training Legislation Amendment Act 2011* was that staff would not be liable to prosecution and this Bill will ensure that objective is achieved.
5. The Bill amends the *Education (Queensland College of Teachers) Act 2005* to enable the Queensland College of Teachers to adopt the National Professional Standards to replace existing standards for Teachers in relation to its teacher registration and course accreditation functions.
6. The National Professional Standards for Teachers developed by the Australian Institute of Teaching and School Leadership was endorsed by all Australian Education Ministers in December 2010.
7. The Bill amends the *Education (General Provisions) Act 2006* to remove the requirement of the chief executive to send letters each year to a person who has been permanently excluded from a state school, advising them of their right to annually seek a revocation of the decision. The amendments will ensure that a student will be advised at the time of their permanent exclusion that they can apply for an annual review of the decision until they are 24 years old. Information will also be available on the Department’s website about their ability to have this decision reviewed.
8. Cabinet approved delivery of e-kindy by the State Schools of Distance Education at no fee to eligible participants.
9. Cabinet approved the introduction of the Education Legislation Amendment Bill 2012 into the Legislative Assembly.
10. *Attachments*
* [Education Legislation Amendment Bill 2012](Attachments/Attachment%201%20Education%20Legislation%20Amendment%20Bill%202012.PDF).
* [Explanatory Notes](Attachments/Attachment%202%20Education%20Legislation%20Amendment%20Bill%202012.PDF).