


Times They Are A-Changin'

Leading between two worlds

PDN School Leaders' Conference

24th August 2022

Gold Coast, QLD

 [pasi_sahlberg](#)



1. Pre-C19 and post-C19
2. Excellence and equity
3. Risks and opportunities

P_{re-C19}

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P_{ost-C19}



260 million children, adolescents and youth are not at school and just half of them achieve the basic level of proficiency required.

– Global Education Monitoring Report 2020



The performance differences across the OECD countries between the most socio-economically advantaged and disadvantaged students is equivalent to over 3 years of schooling.

–OECD PISA 2018



THE WORLD BANK

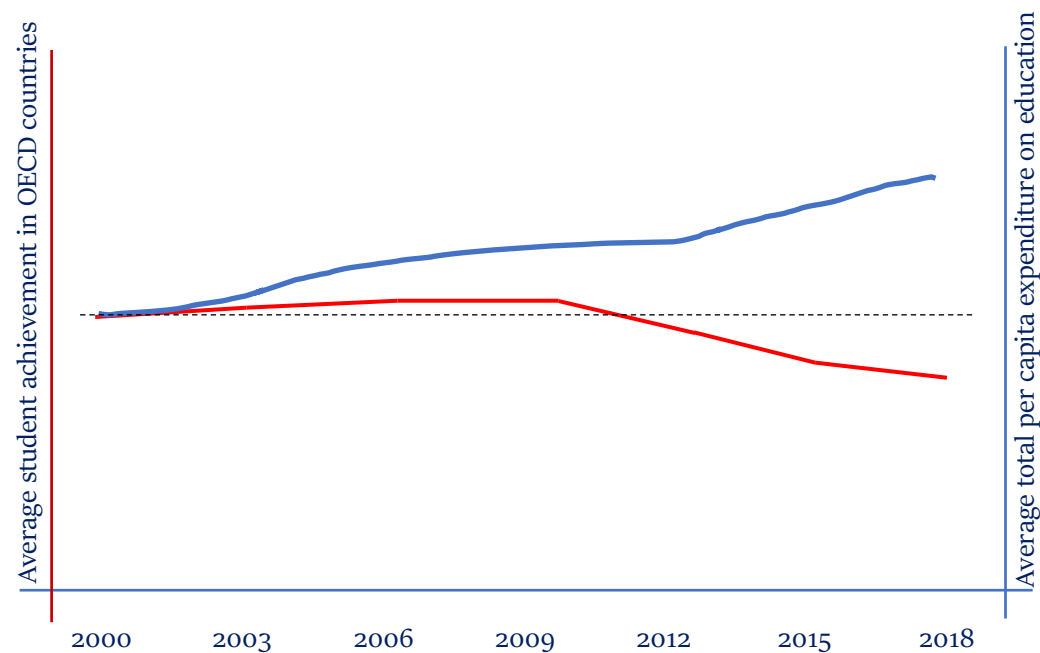
There is a global learning crisis that amplifies educational inequalities that severely hobbles the disadvantaged youth who most need the boost that a good education can offer.

– World Bank Human Development Report 2018

Crisis!

1

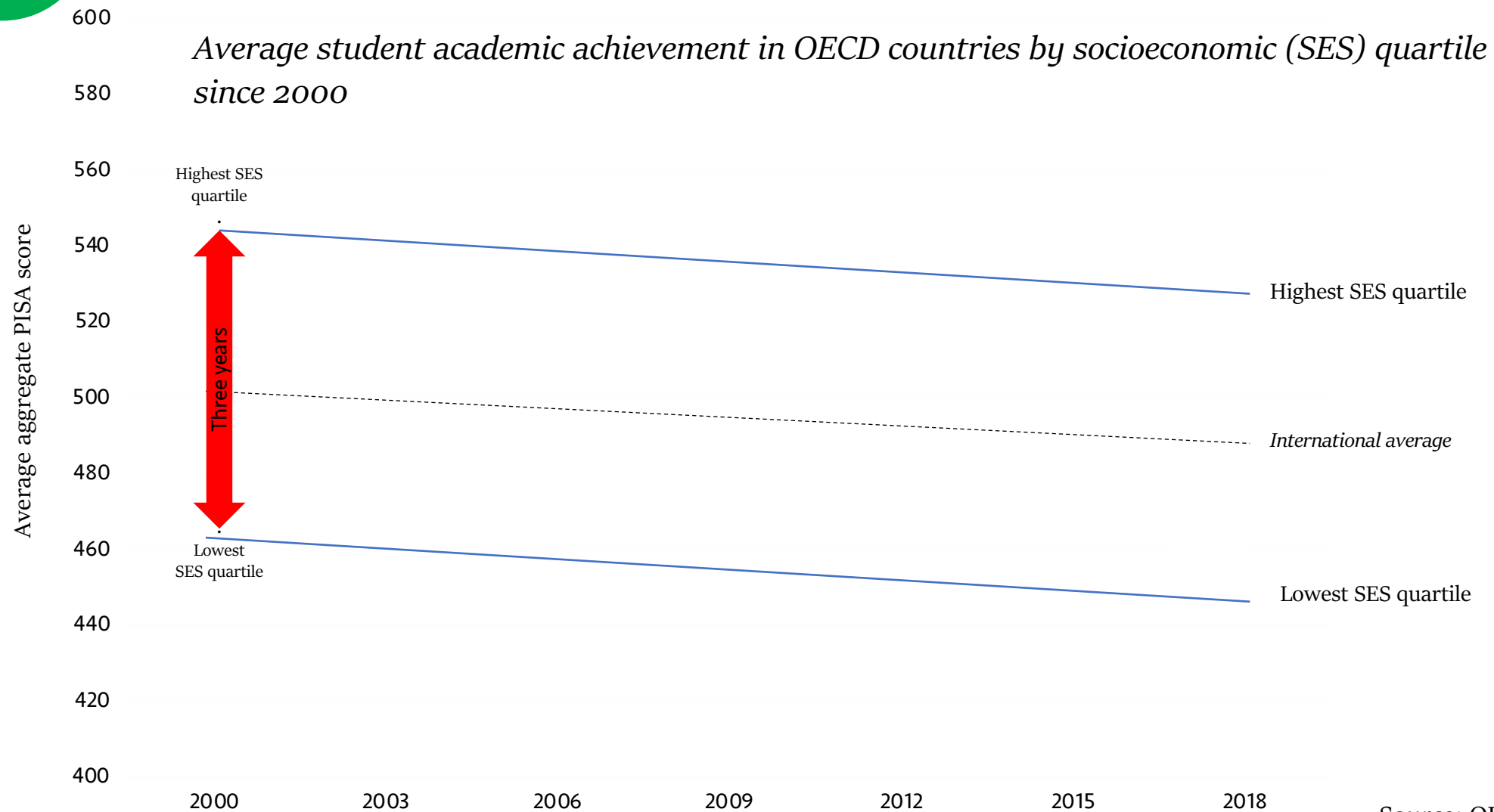
Education outcomes vs. spending



“Real spending on education has grown steadily over the last 10 years. But government education spending as a share of GDP has remained flat in the past 10 years.”

- UIS; OECD; IMF; World Bank databases

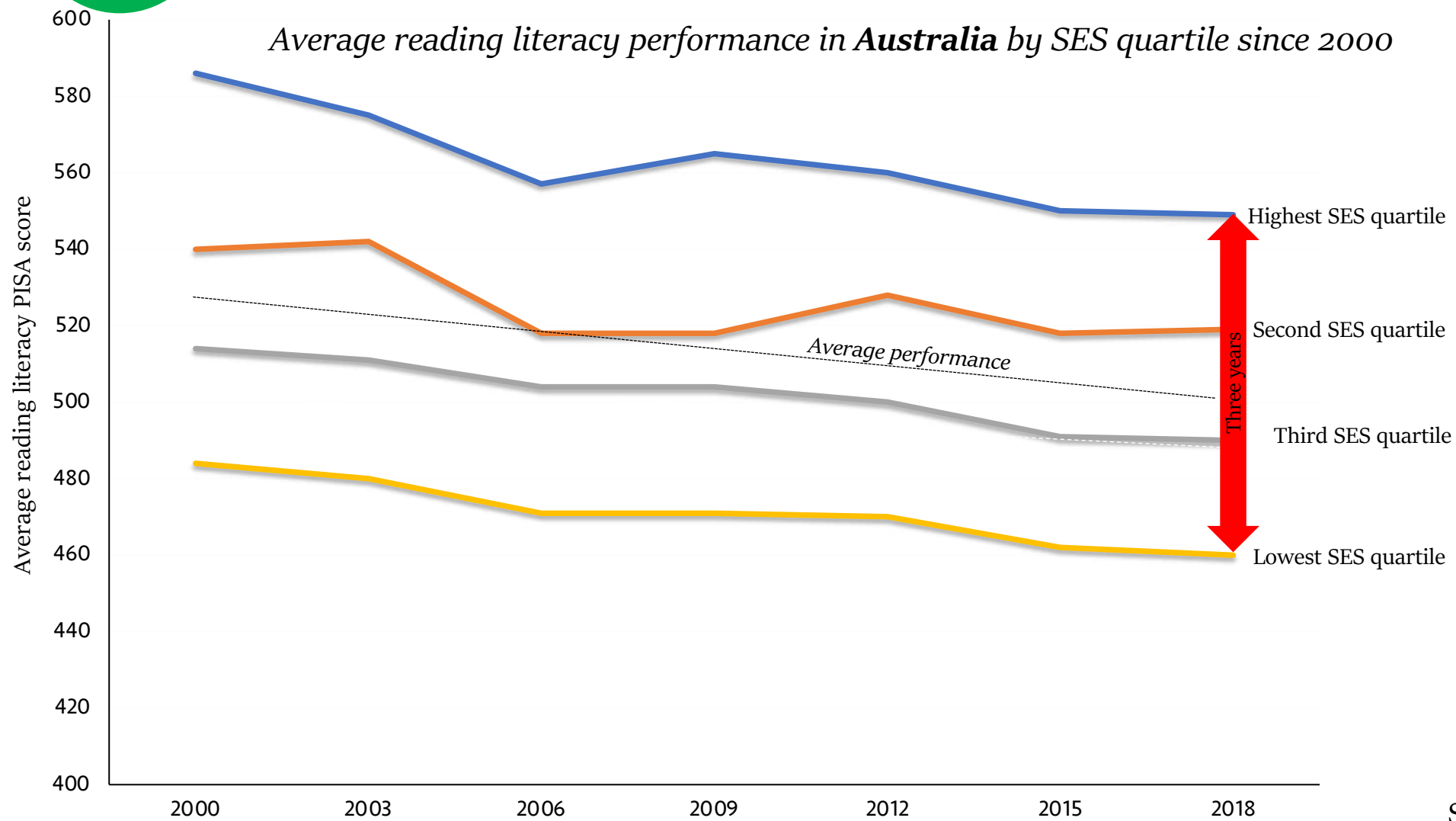
2 Large inequalities



Source: OECD 2021

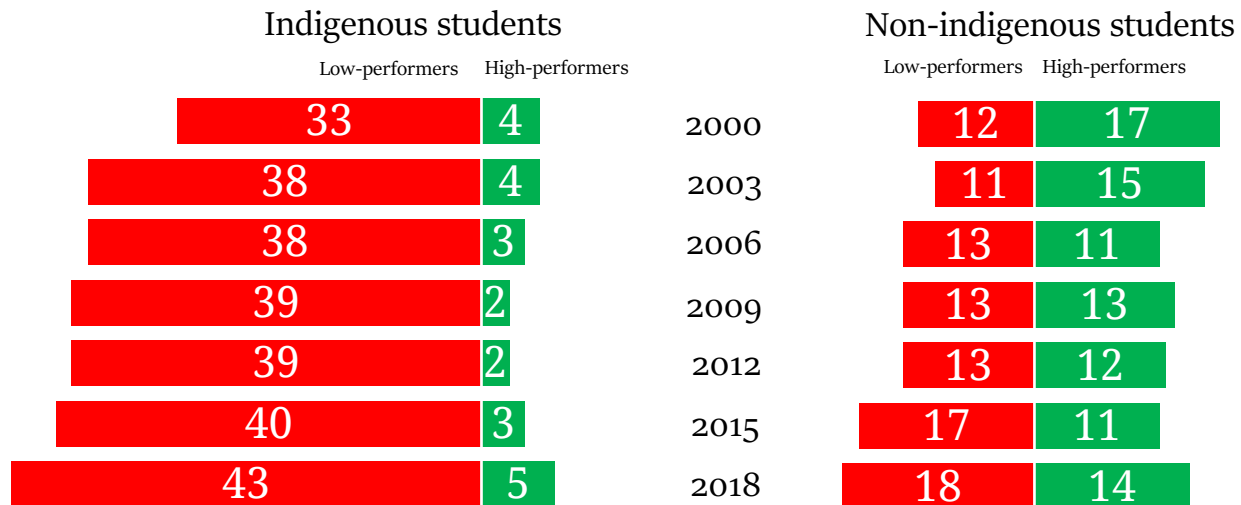
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Large inequalities



2 Large inequalities

Proportions of low and high performers in Australia on the OECD PISA reading literacy proficiency scale by Indigenous background

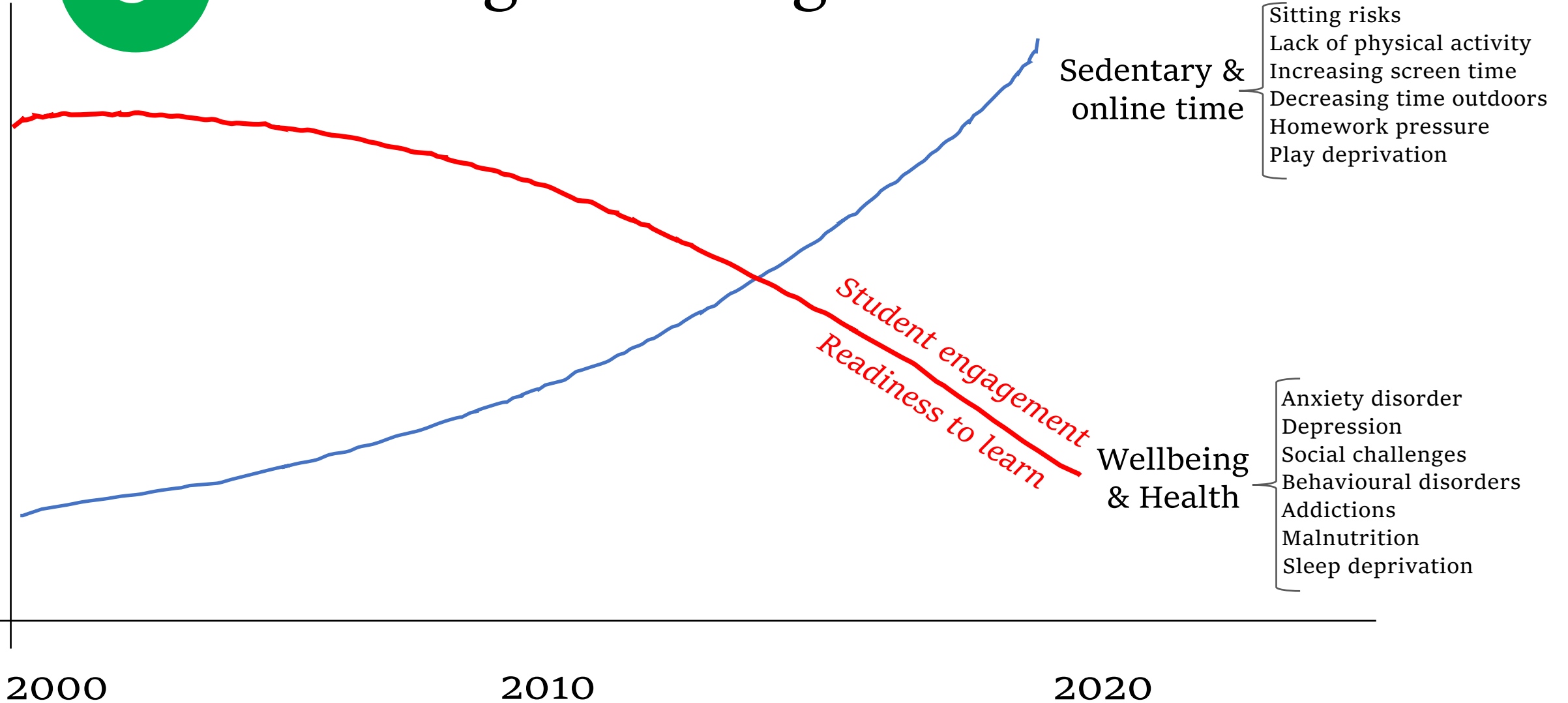


AUSTRALIA
Number of low-performing students is increasing

3

Declining wellbeing vs. online time

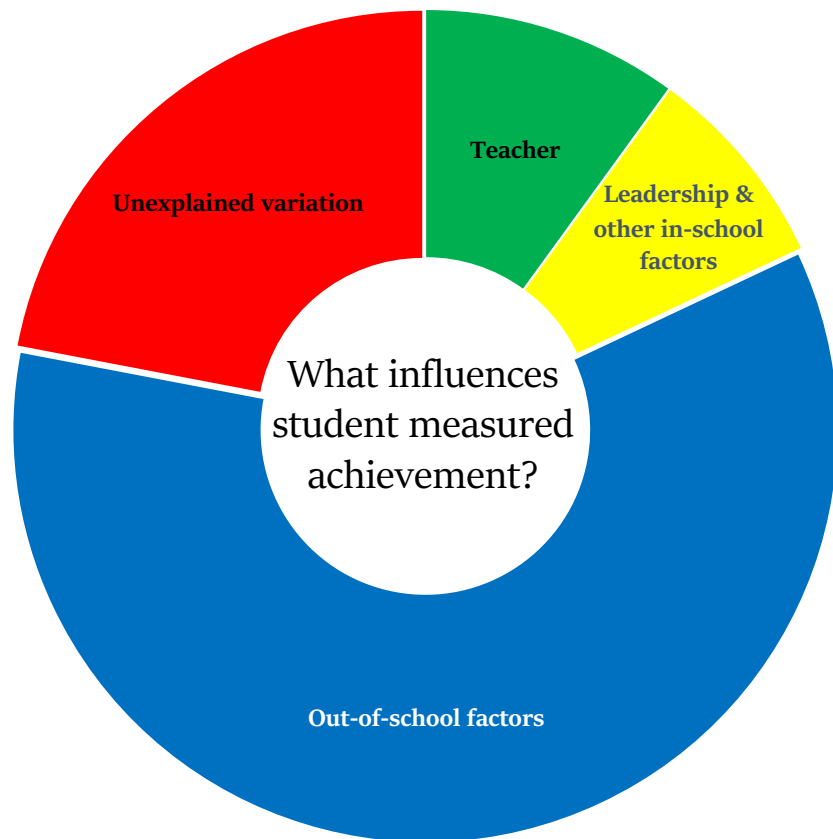
1 Pre-C19 & Post-C19



Excellence

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Equity



Teachers account for about 1% to 14% of the variability in test scores, therefore the majority of opportunities for quality improvement are found in the system-level conditions.

- American Statistical Association (2014)

WHAT IS EQUITY?

ADEQUATE OF EDUCATION

All children receive an education that enables them to realise their talents and fully participate in society in a way of their own choosing.

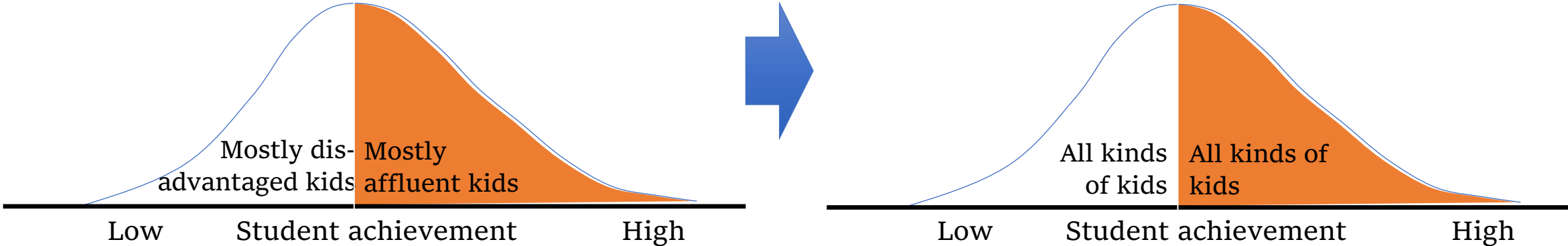
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SOCIAL EQUITY

Children from different social groups should achieve similar average education outcomes and similar distribution of these outcomes.

“Equity means that all students should receive an adequate education, and the distribution of learning outcomes for different equity groups should be similar.”

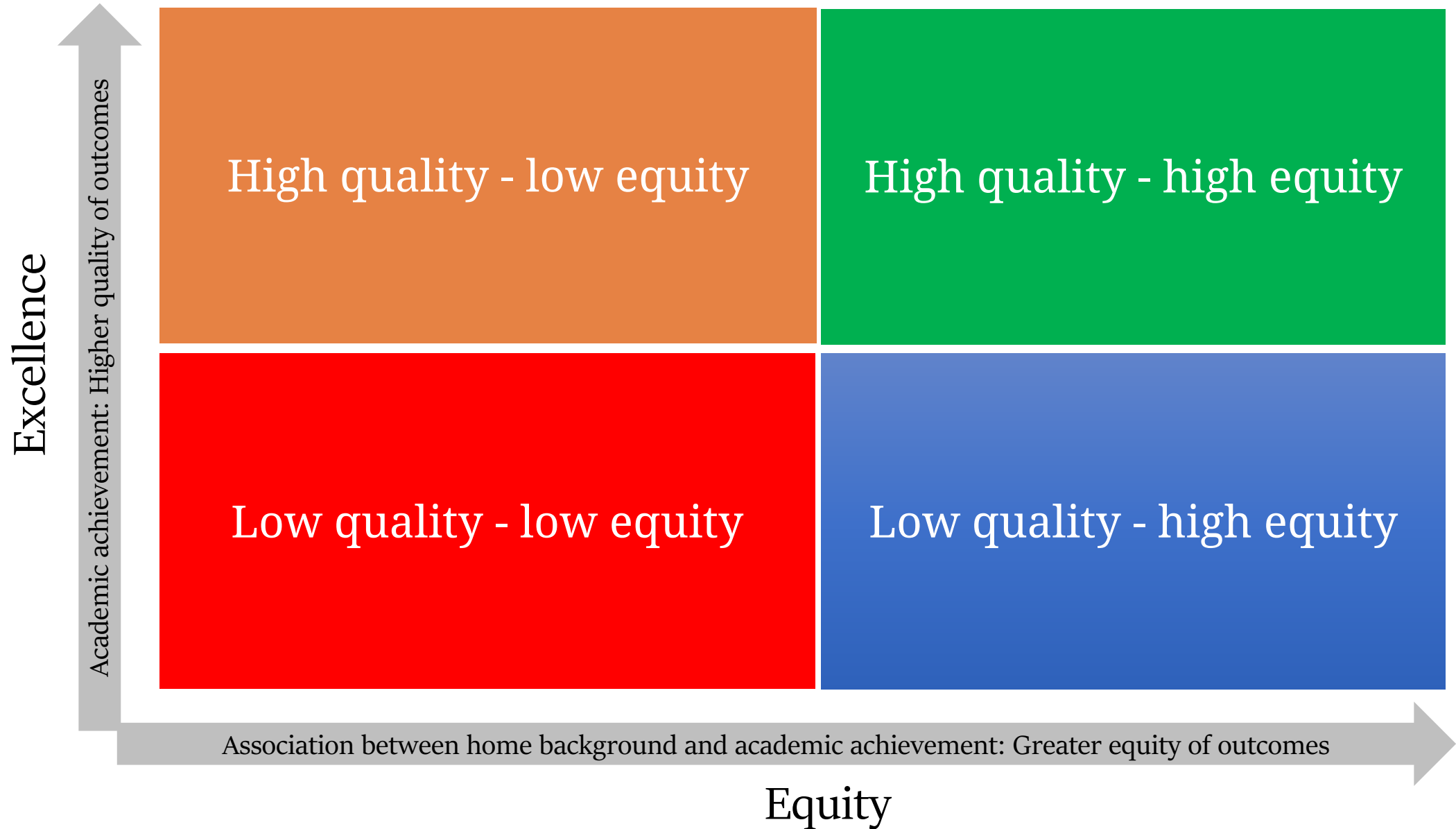
SOCIAL EQUITY



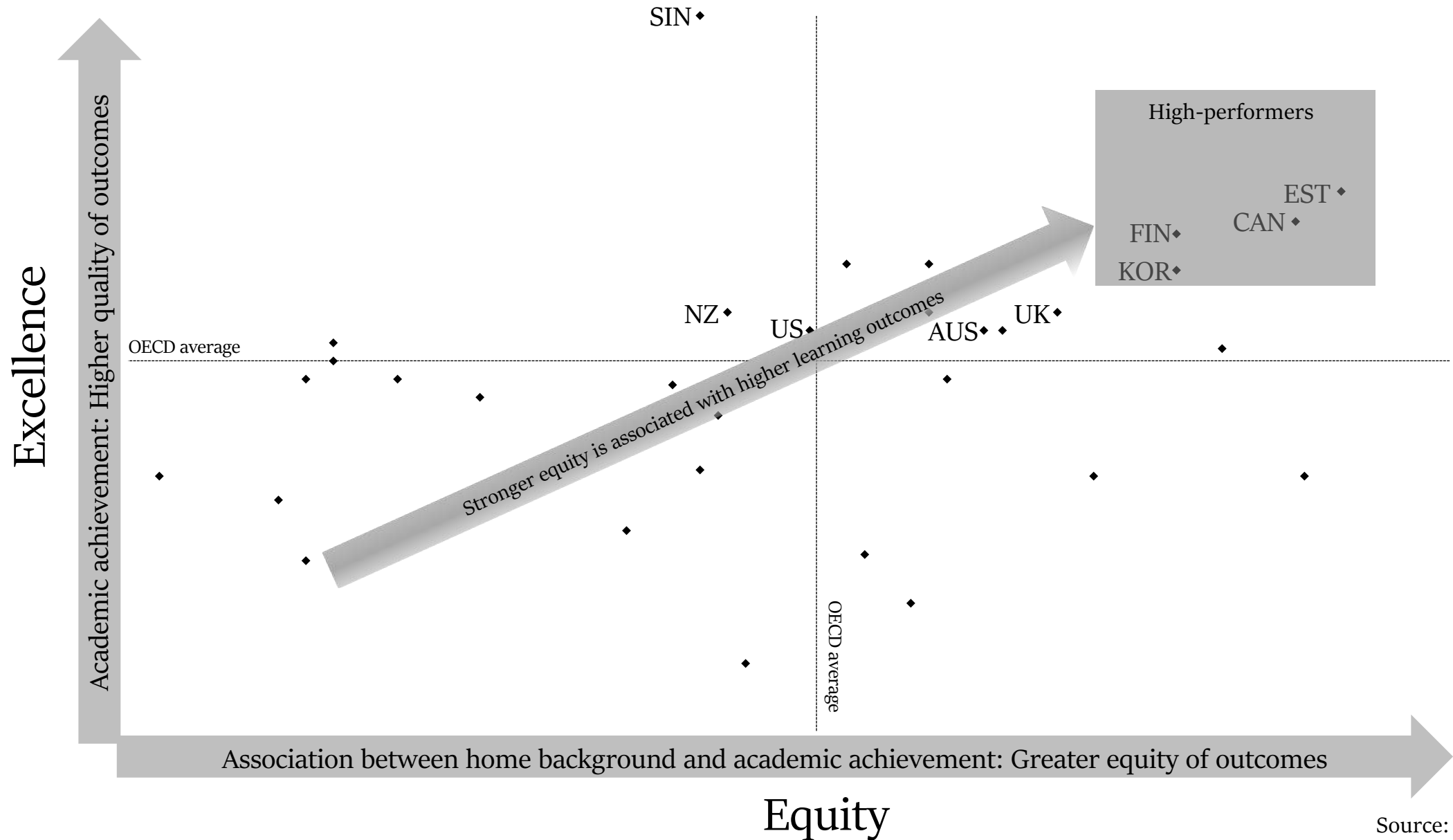
INEQUITY

EQUITY

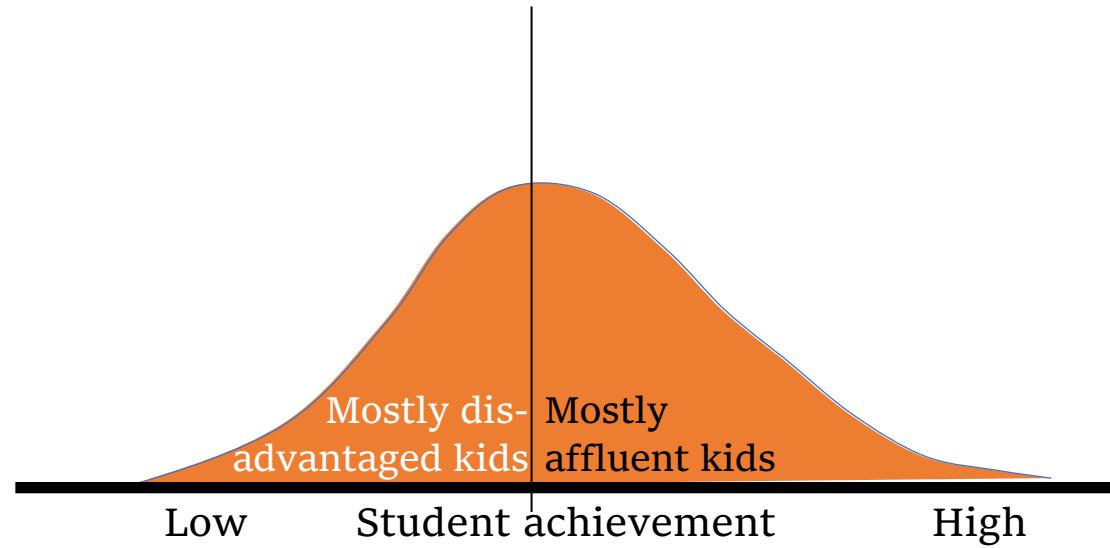
EXCELLENCE & EQUITY



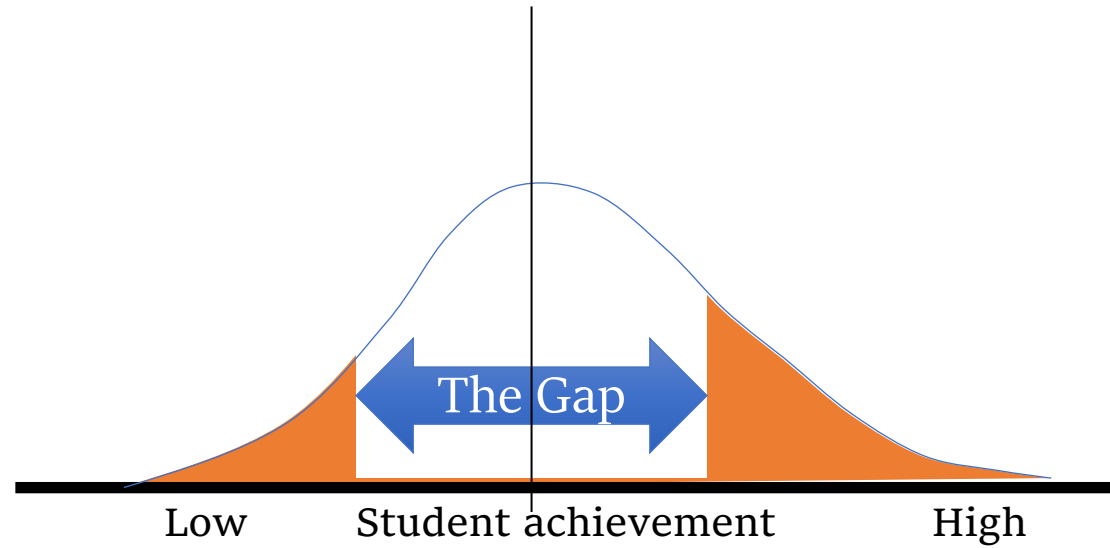
EXCELLENCE & EQUITY



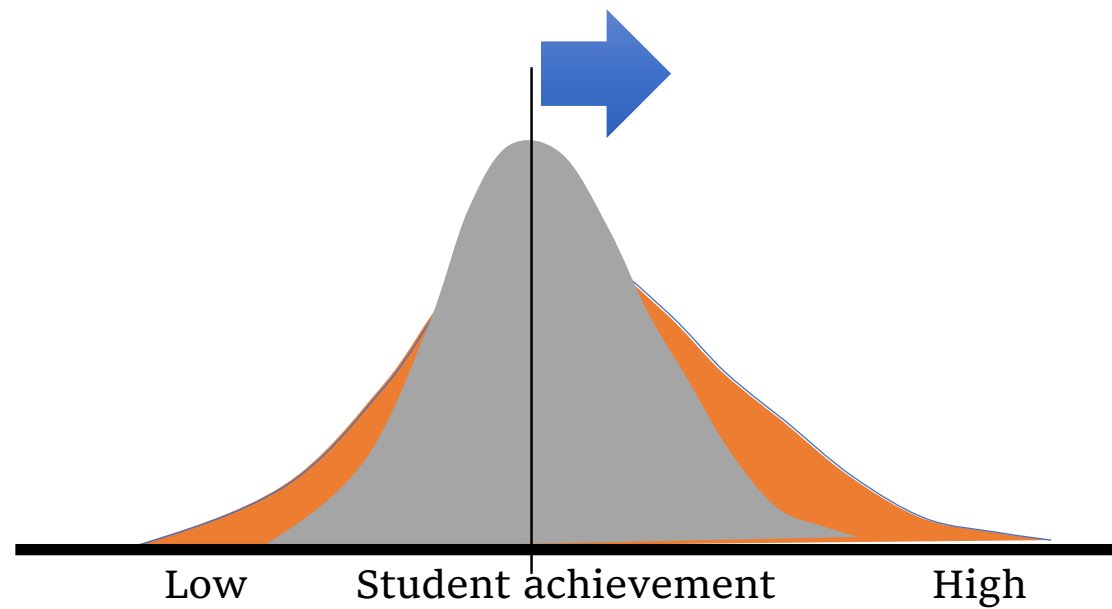
CLOSING THE GAP \neq EQUITY



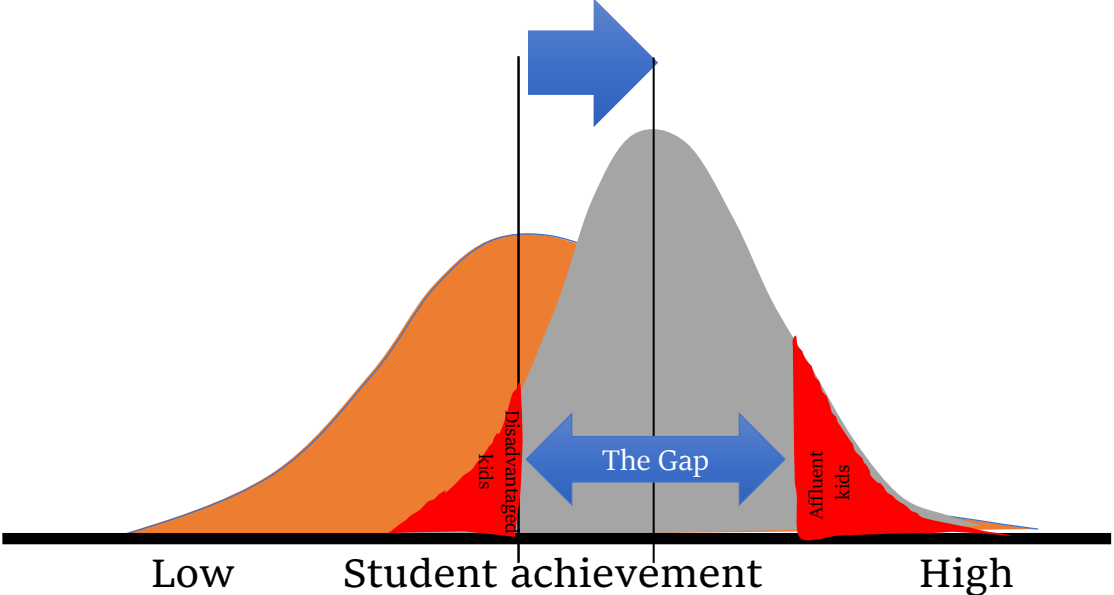
CLOSING THE GAP \neq EQUITY



CLOSING THE GAP \neq EQUITY



CLOSING THE GAP \neq EQUITY



REMEMBER:

“A child's learning is a function more of the characteristics of her/his classmates than of those of the teacher.”

- Coleman (1966)

“The highest-performing education systems across the OECD are those that combine quality with equity.”

- OECD (2018)

Risks

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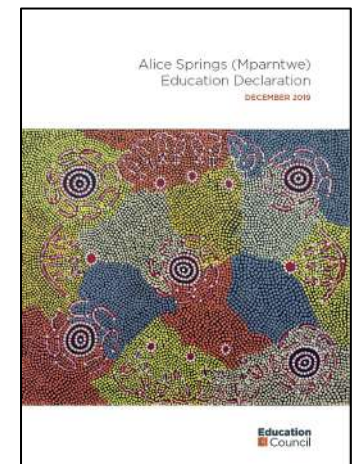
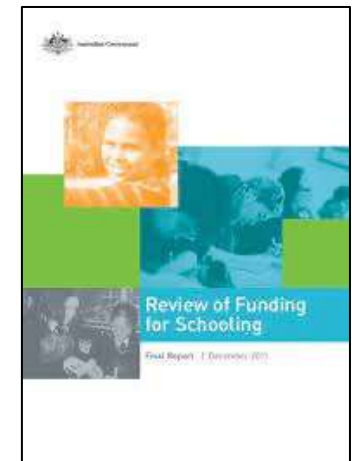
Opportunities

1 Risks

- The 'learning loss' myth
- Declining wellbeing
- Disengagement and apathy

2 Opportunities

- The Declaration of the Rights of the Child (1990)
- The Review of Funding for Schooling (2011)
- The Alice Springs (Mparntwe) Declaration (2019)



3 And...

- You know more than you think you know!
- Ask not if the child is ready for school. Ask if the school is ready for her.
- Ask not how good is Johnny. Ask how is Johnny good.

Thank you!