


LEADING BETWEEN TWO WORLDS

WA Catholic Primary Principals Association Conference

21st September 2022

Fremantle, WA

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1. Pivot: Post-pandemic Fundamentals
2. Strengthen: Equity for Excellence
3. Grow: A Nation at Hope

Pivot:
Post-pandemic Fundamentals

Pre-pandemic state of global education



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.

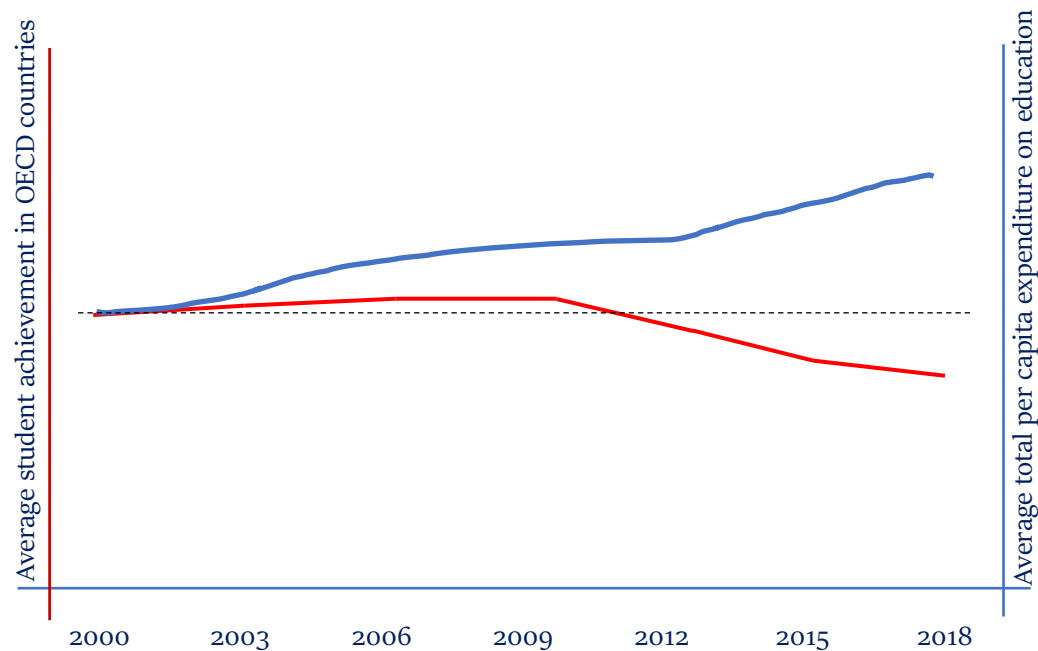
– World Bank Human Development Report 2018

A large, bright red circle with a white glow effect, containing the word "Crisis!" in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters.

Crisis!

1

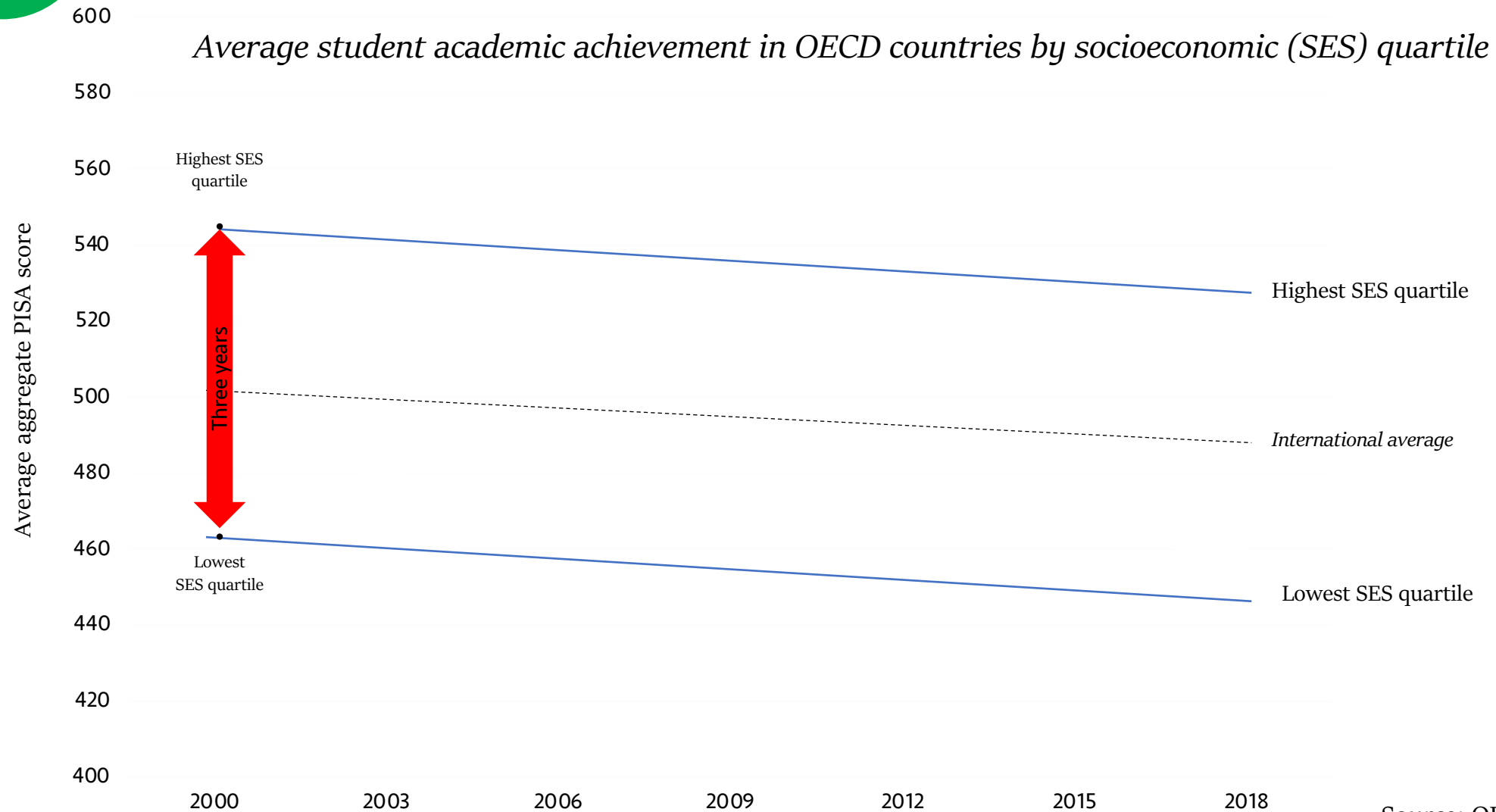
Education outcomes vs. spending



“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

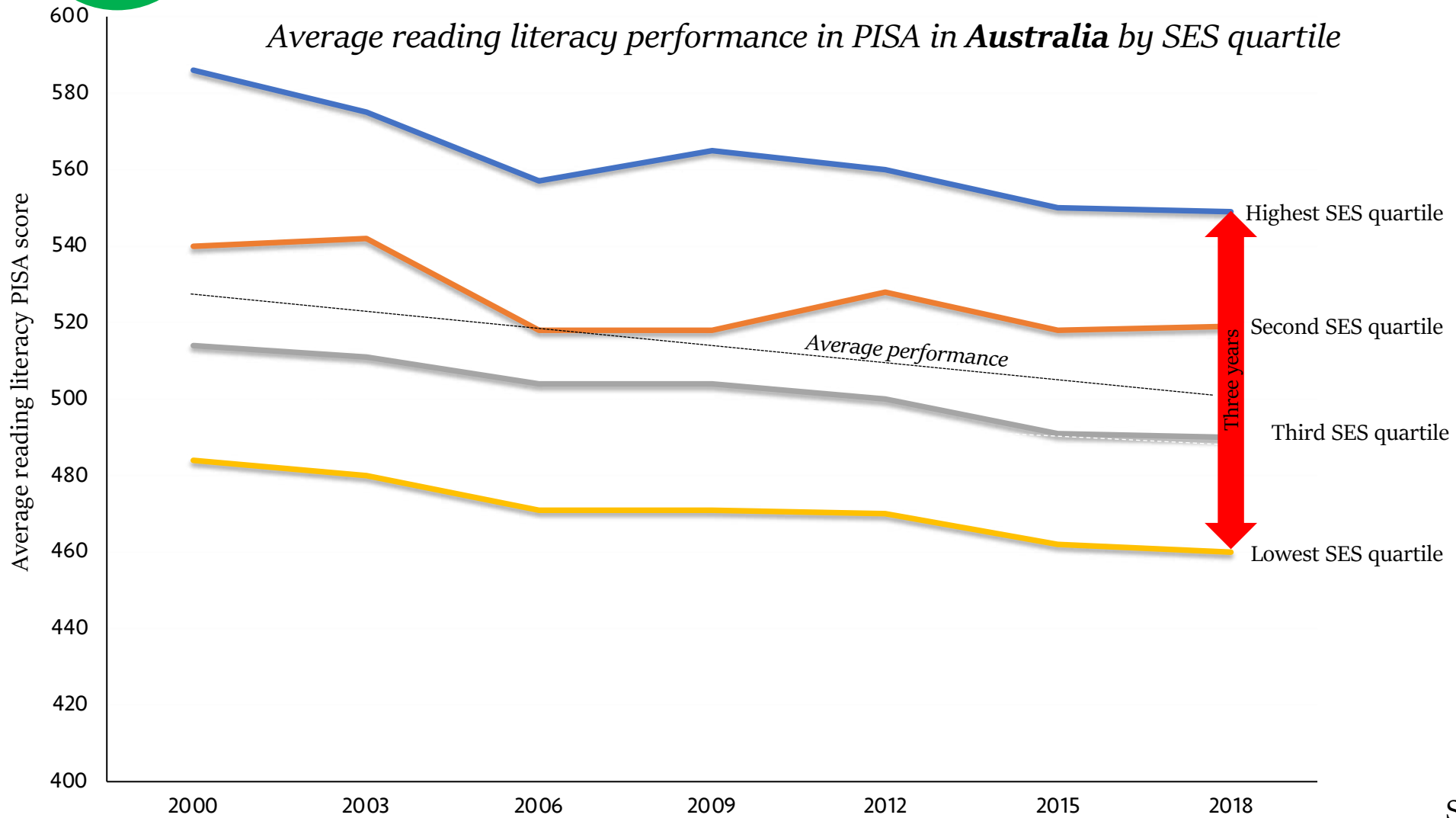
2 Large inequalities



Source: OECD 2021

2

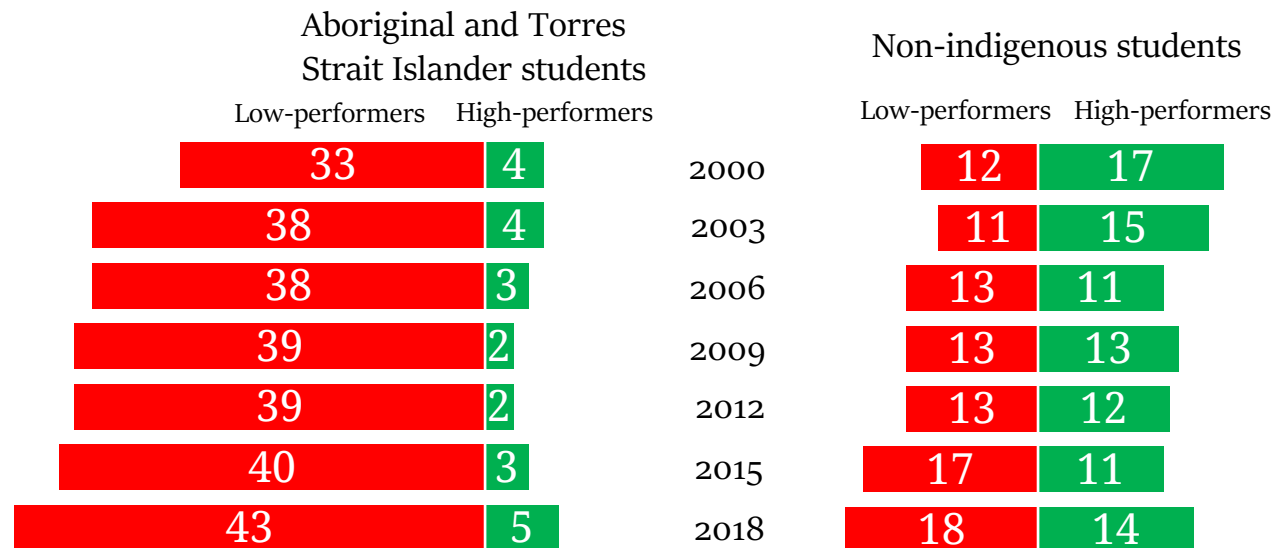
Large inequalities



Source: ACER, 2020

2 Large inequalities

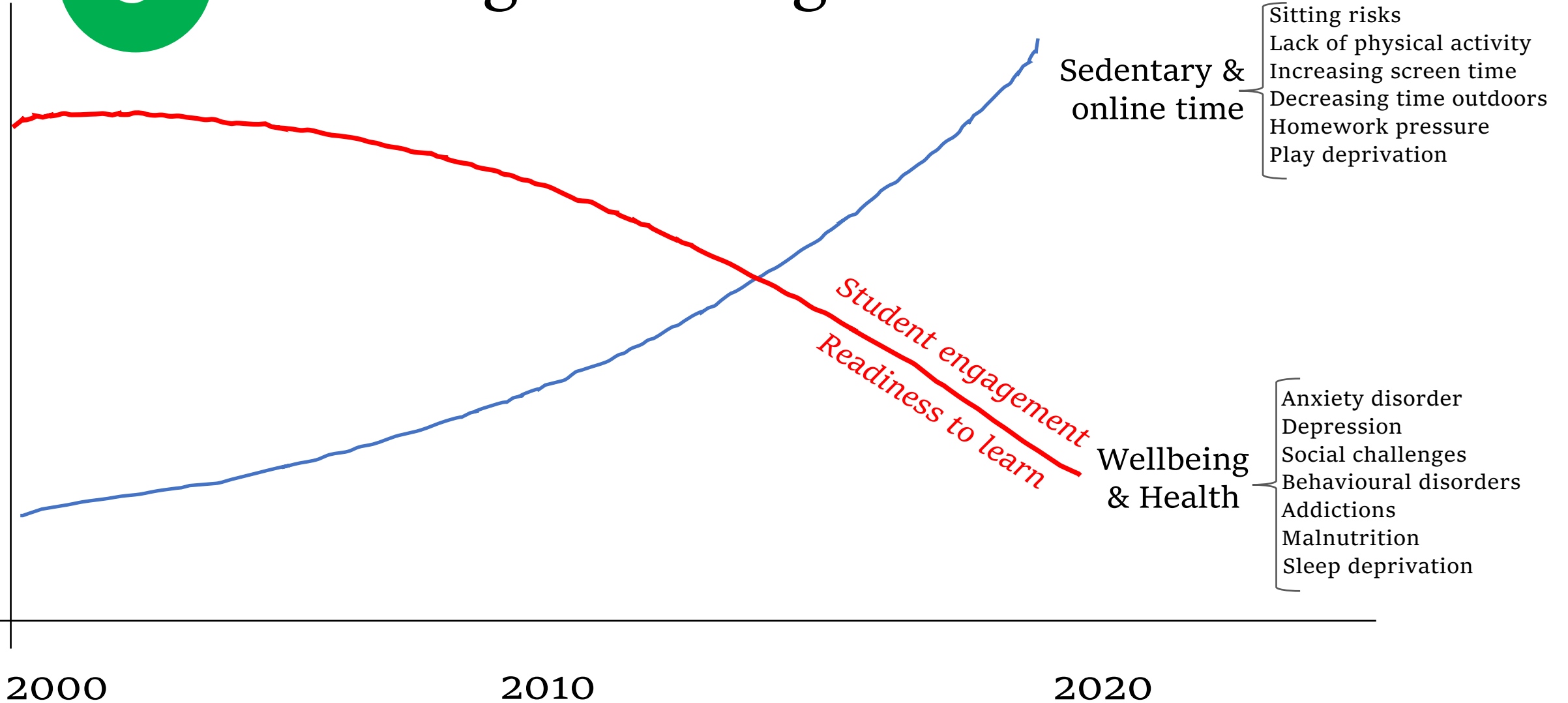
Proportions of low and high performers in Australia on the OECD PISA reading literacy proficiency scale by Indigenous background



3

Declining wellbeing vs. online time

1 Pivot



What does this mean for our schools?

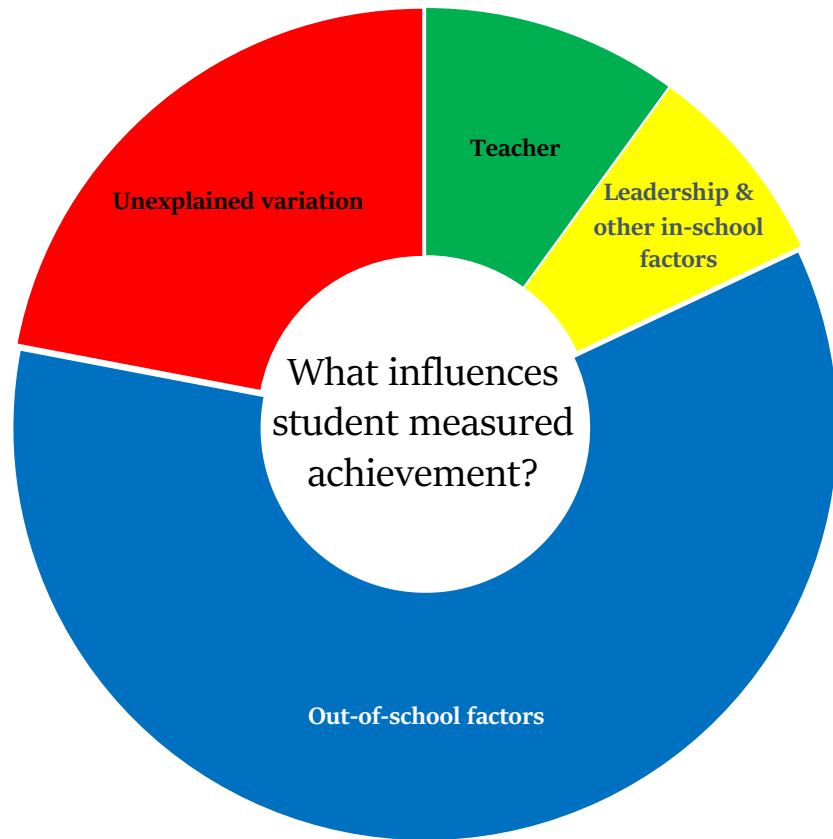
1. We have a complex global challenge that the pandemic hasn't caused but has exposed and exacerbated it.
2. 'Learning loss' existed far before the pandemic, the solution must include fixing its root causes.
3. Health is the most important thing in our life. We need to teach it as an essential 21st skill.

Strengthen:
Equity for Excellence

An inconvenient truth

**“It ain’t what you don’t know that gets you into trouble.
It’s what you know for sure that just ain’t so.”**

- Mark Twain



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)

The conclusion that family background is far more important for student learning than people think has remained a solid empirical research finding for the past half a century.

What does that mean?

EQUITY OF EDUCATION OUTCOMES

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

ADEQUATE OF EDUCATION

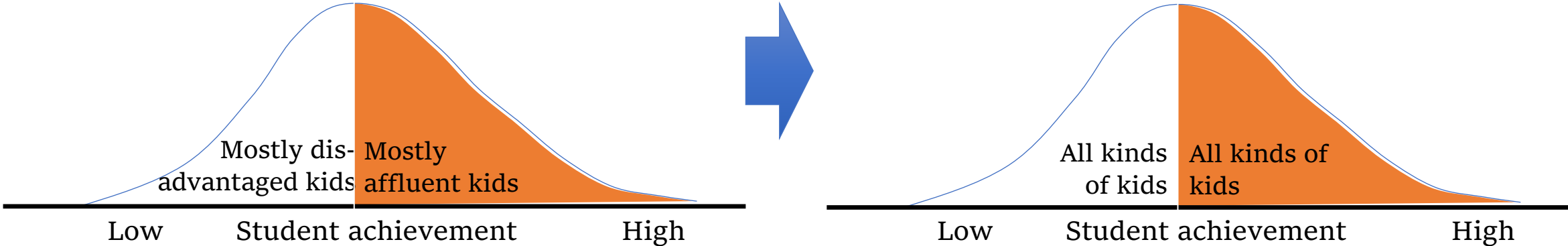
All children receive an education that enables them to realise their talents and fully participate in society in a way of their own choosing.

+

SOCIAL EQUITY

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

SOCIAL EQUITY



INEQUITY

EQUITY



HOME



SCHOOL



COMMUNITY



PEER
INTERACTION

Places where learning grows



- Compulsory instruction
- Elective curriculum
- Formal and informal school spaces

SCHOOL

- Extracurricular activities
- Recreational activities and engagement in hobbies
- Civic and employment opportunities
- Community learning setting

OUT OF SCHOOL

2 Strengthen

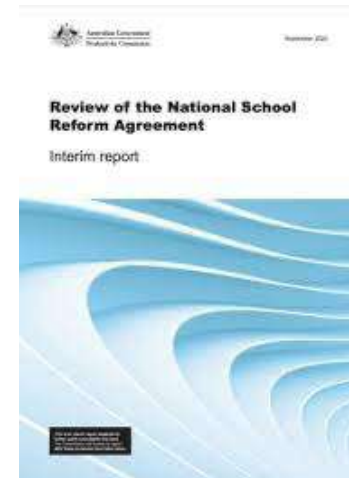
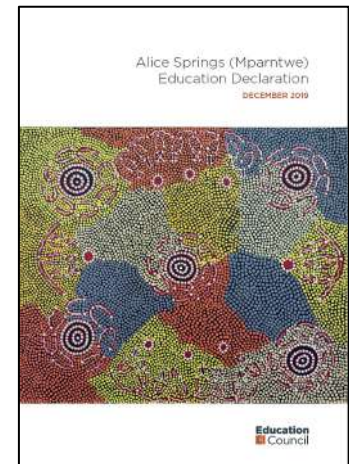
Expanding our understanding of where, how and when young people grow and learn

- ♥ Set a vision for the whole child development
- ♥ Embed social, emotional and cognitive skills in all instruction and school activities
- ♥ Build adult expertise in contemporary child and adolescent development
- ♥ Align resources and leverage partnerships across schools, families, and communities to address the whole child
- ♥ Forge closer connections between research and practice to generate useful, actionable information for teachers and leaders

Grow:

A Nation at Hope

- The Declaration of the Rights of the Child (1990)
- The Alice Springs (Mparntwe) Declaration (2019)
- National School Reform Agreement (2024)



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

- OECD (2018)

Thank you!