

# GROWING UP IN QUEENSLAND 2020: REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS DARLING DOWNS SOUTH WEST

The voices of 1,189 children and young people living in Darling Downs South West

## HOPES & DREAMS

For the future, I hope that the world becomes more open-minded and accepting to people who are different.

FEMALE, 17 YEARS

CHILDREN SAID THAT TO ACHIEVE THEIR GOALS, THEY NEED:

- EDUCATION
- EXPERIENCE / PRACTISE
- MINDSET / ACTIONS

**55%** of young people<sup>1</sup> said they feel positive about their future

### WHEN THEY FINISH SCHOOL, YOUNG PEOPLE PLAN TO:

**53%** go to university

**45%** work

**34%** travel

**13%** go to TAFE

**12%** do an apprenticeship or traineeship

CHILDREN<sup>2</sup> AND YOUNG PEOPLE TOLD US THEIR TOP HOPES FOR THE FUTURE ARE:

- EMPLOYMENT
- EDUCATION
- PHYSICAL SAFETY & SECURITY IN THE COMMUNITY

YOUNG PEOPLE TOLD US THE TOP BARRIERS TO SUCCESS ARE:

- FINANCIAL (E.G. COST OF UNI)
- EDUCATION (E.G. GETTING A LOW ATAR)
- PERSONAL (E.G. LACK OF MOTIVATION)

## WHO WE HEARD FROM

**15%** OF RESPONSES WERE FROM DARLING DOWNS SOUTH WEST

**9** gender-diverse participants

**680** females

**418** males

**175** reported having an emotional or mental health condition

**116** identified as LGBTQIA

**24** said they speak a language other than English at home

**32** said they have a disability

**39** told us they have a long-term physical health condition

**51** identified as Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and / or South Sea Islander

## COMMUNITY

Everyone is close knit and feels like a family as everyone knows everyone.

FEMALE, 16 YEARS

**58%** of young people felt safe in their community

CHILDREN SAID when they need help with a problem, they usually speak to

**89%** family at home

**58%** friends

**41%** teachers

### WHEN YOUNG PEOPLE NEEDED SUPPORT they spoke to

**73%** friends

**58%** family

**37%** kept it to themselves

**52%**

of young people felt they belong to their community

**20%**

felt adults in their community listen to what young people have to say

### YOUNG PEOPLE SAID

a sense of community, peace & quiet, and small town / suburban / rural living were what they value most about their community.

**46%**

of young people were aware of support services in their community and online

### PARTICIPANTS SAID

better & more places, spaces, events and activities, as well as increased safety, would make their community a better place.

**45%**

said there are enough safe places to hang out with friends

## BIG ISSUES

I believe the most important issue for kids my age is bullying. I believe this because I see it at my own school.

MALE, 11 YEARS

### BIG ISSUES FOR CHILDREN:

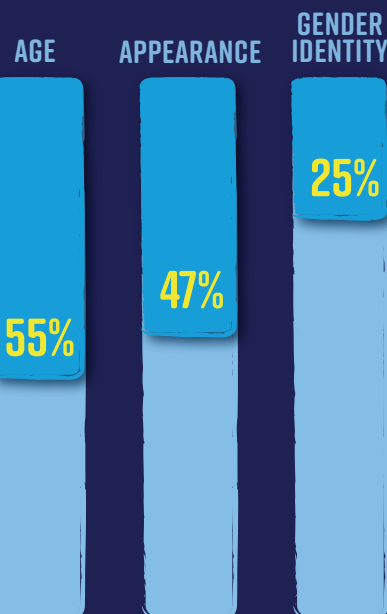
**22%** bullying (in person)

**17%** everyone being safe

**12%** everyone having an education

### UNFAIR TREATMENT OF YOUNG PEOPLE

was most frequently related to their



### BIG ISSUES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE:

**29%** mental health & wellbeing

**8%** social media, media, internet & technology

**7%** bullying

**52%**

had witnessed bullying

**42%**

had been bullied

**5%**

had bullied someone

### YOUNG PEOPLE'S EXPERIENCES OF BULLYING