



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

No. 47

WRITTEN QUESTION

J Davis to the Minister for Education and Training, Hon Jo-Anne Hersey MLA:

Truancy Officers

1. What are the training and qualification requirements for persons authorised under s.167(2) (e.g. Truancy Officers) of the Education Act 2015 ('the Act')?
2. What further training is provided for persons authorised under s.167(2) of the Act during their employment?
3. How are these training needs identified?
4. In particular what training and qualifications are persons authorised under s.167(2) of the Act required to have when working with children with developmental challenges, FASD and other cognitive impairments?
5. What happens when children do not engage with the persons authorised under s.167(2) of the Act?
6. How are the persons authorised under s.167(2) of the Act exercising their powers under s 174 of the Education Act?
7. How will persons authorised under s.167(2) of the Act identify children they find on the street?
8. Do children have the right to silence?
9. Can you outline the process of 'accompany' under s.174(5). What happens if the young person refuses to be 'accompanied'?
10. Please outline the potential actions persons authorised under s.167(2) of the Act can take Under s 174 (5c).
11. Can you outline the work of persons authorised under s.167(2) of the Act from November 26th to December 20th 2024. How many interactions with children and adults have there been? Please outline the nature of those interactions and the outcomes.

12. Has the Government commenced issuing penalties under the Act to families? If so, how many fines have been issued, in what locations and for what amounts?
13. What department and what business area within that department are managing persons authorised under s.167(2) of the Act and making decisions on issuing fines?
14. Please provide the theory of change (and the research underpinning this theory) used by the Department of Education to link the strategy of employing truancy officers and issuing fines to the outcome of increasing school attendance.