

# WRITTEN QUESTIONS

## 7th Assembly

12/02/1996

97. **School Class Numbers**

Mr. STIRLING to MINISTER for EDUCATION and TRAINING

### QUESTION

1. How many and which schools in the categories listed below have class sizes greater than the numbers indicated:

- |     |  |         |
|-----|--|---------|
| (a) | pre-school (non-Aboriginal)                | 20;     |
| (b) | pre-school (Aboriginal)                    | 15;     |
| (c) | primary/transition (non-Aboriginal)        | 20;     |
| (d) | junior primary, years 1-3 (non-Aboriginal) | 20;     |
| (e) | primary, years 4-7 (non-Aboriginal)        | 25;     |
| (f) | junior primary, years 1-3 (Aboriginal)     | 18;     |
| (g) | primary, years 4-7 (Aboriginal)            | 20;     |
| (h) | composite 2 year span                      | 23;     |
| (i) | composite 5 year (or more) span            | 15;     |
| (j) | secondary general, years 8-10              | 25; and |
| (k) | secondary general, years 11 and 12         | 20.     |

### ANSWER

Answered on 30/07/96

Northern Territory Government schools are staffed on the basis of an agreed staffing formula and schools have the ability to deploy assigned staff accordingly. This formula places the student/teacher ratio in Territory schools among the best in Australia.

The Department does not hold any information centrally on class sizes and the figures requested are not available.

The detail requested would entail every Northern Territory Government school being contacted and asked to provide the specific information on each class on a given day.

Such an exercise would involve an unjustifiable amount of time given that the results would only reflect actual class sizes on the day of the survey.