



# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

No. 8

## WRITTEN QUESTION

Mr Guyula to the Minister for Education and Training, Hon Jo-Anne Hersey MLA:

### **Bilingual and English as a Second Language (ESL) / English as an Additional Language or Dialect (EAL/D) Teaching Support**

- 1. Please advise how many tertiary trained ESL/EAL/D teachers are based at schools in the Northern Territory (NT)?**

This data is not available as it is not collected by the Department of Education and Training (the department), however all teachers have tertiary training to be registered.

- 2. Please advise how many tertiary trained ESL/EAL/D teachers are based at schools in North East Arnhem Land?**

As per above, this is not information that is collected by the department, however all teachers have tertiary training to be registered.

- 3. How many Senior Managers (or other non-school based positions), are there in the Department of Education and Training that are wholly focussed on supporting teachers to work with ESL/EAL/D learners? Please advise how many people in those positions hold tertiary ESL/EAL/D qualifications?**

The department currently employs 3 Senior Teacher (Level 2) teaching and learning advisors to support teachers to work with ESL/EAL/D learners. In addition, there are 2 Senior Teacher (Level 1) teaching and learning advisors being recruited to be based in regions. These staff all hold tertiary EAL/D qualifications and/or significant experience working with EAL/D learners.

**4. What ESL/EALD professional development is provided to NT Teachers? Please outline who provides the training and the expected learning outcomes of the training?**

The department provides access to a range of resources and professional development opportunities for NT teachers. This includes:

- coaching and support to schools upon request
- professional learning for all schools focused on pedagogy, assessment and use of data to improve learning outcomes in all curriculum areas
- guidance and resources through eLearn developed by the department to improve differentiated teaching and assessment practices to meet the needs of EAL/D students
- access to the EAL/D Hub – an online, professional development course for educators designed by experts across Australia to better understand the cultural and educational needs of EAL/D learners
- short course ‘the needs of students with EAL/D’ provided through OnLine Training to improve teachers’ awareness of the possible impact of cultural change and migration on student learning.

Additional professional learning is available to teachers through professional organisations such as the Association for Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages NT and promoted to NT teachers through Learning Matters.

**5. What percentage of students in the NT are ESL/EAL/D speakers?**

The 2024 Age Grade Census reported that 12,239 (38%) of NT students were monitored and assessed as EAL/D learners.

**6. How many Senior Managers (or other non-school based positions) are there within the Department of Education and Training that are wholly focussed on the development of Bilingual education and the support of current and future bilingual schools?**

The department employs 4 Senior Professional 1 advisors that support teaching and learning in bilingual education and Aboriginal languages and cultures. A Senior Teacher 2 position is currently being recruited to. In addition, there is a Senior Teacher 4 position to lead EAL/D, Bilingual Education and Aboriginal Languages and Cultures.