

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

WRITTEN QUESTION

Mrs Finocchiaro to the Minister for Education

Appropriation Bill – Education

1. Please provide copies of:
 - All questions, which have been received from the public in relation to the Estimates process and consideration of the Appropriation Bill for the 2017/18 financial year; and
 - The answers to those questions that were presented to the Estimates Committee.

Please provide the information requested below for the Department of Education, as at 31 March 2017.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Please accept apologies if questions are not under the correct Output. Where this is the case, it would be appreciated if you could indicate the appropriate Output in your response. Thank You.

OUTPUT GROUP: GOVERNMENT EDUCATION

OUTPUT: EARLY YEARS

An additional \$1.4 million was allocated to this Output at Mid-Year Review. Please explain what this was for and what outcomes can be expected.

1. When will the Early Childhood Development plan be complete?
 - a. How much has been spent between 1 September 2016 and 31 March 2017 recruiting and compensating panel members to advise the Early Childhood Development plan?
 - b. How will the outcomes of the plan be measured, by whom, and how much has been budgeted to do so?
 - c. Will the outcomes of the 21 February meeting be made public? When is the next meeting?
 - d. How many times has the panel met since 21 February?

OUTPUT: PRESCHOOL EDUCATION

1. When will the review of the Child and Family Centre Model commence?
 - a. When is the expected completion date?
 - b. Who will be conducting the review?
 - c. What is the expected cost and where is this provided for in the budget?

OUTPUT: PRIMARY EDUCATION

1. How many primary school teachers have separated between 1 September 2016 and 31 March 2017?
2. How many primary school teachers on temporary contracts have become permanent between 1 September 2016 and 31 March 2017?
3. How many new primary school teachers have commenced on temporary contracts between 1 September 2016 and 31 March 2017?
 - a. How many have been recruited from interstate?
4. How many new primary school teachers have commenced permanent employment between 1 September 2016 and 31 March?
 - a. How many have been recruited from interstate?
5. How many students have been suspended since 1 September 2016? Please list these suspensions by school.
 - a. How many of these were for substance abuse, and what was the substance involved? Please list these suspensions by school.
 - b. What additional action is taken when a student is suspended for substance abuse to address the substance problem?
 - c. How many students who were suspended for substance abuse subsequently attended a program, counselling, or other intervention to address substance use? How many did not?
6. How many students have been expelled since 1 September 2016? Please list these expulsions by school.
 - a. How many of these were for substance abuse, and what was the substance involved? Please list these expulsions by school.
 - b. What additional action is taken when a student is expelled for substance abuse to address the substance problem?

- c. How many students who were expelled for substance abuse subsequently attended a program, counselling, or other intervention to address substance use? How many did not?
7. How many times were police called to schools to address behavioural problems, substance use, or any other issues pertaining to a student? Please specify the schools to which police were called.

OUTPUT: MIDDLE YEARS EDUCATION

1. How many middle school teachers have separated between 1 September 2016 and 31 March 2017?
2. How many middle school teachers on temporary contracts have become permanent between 1 September 2016 and 31 March 2017?
3. How many new middle school teachers have commenced on temporary contracts between 1 September 2016 and 31 March 2017?
 - a. How many have been recruited from interstate?
4. How many new middle school teachers have commenced permanent employment between 1 September 2016 and 31 March 2017?
 - a. How many have been recruited from interstate?
5. How will the \$1.2 million “to continue to improve educational outcomes of all middle years students” be used? Which schools/students will it be used for, how will they be identified, and how will it be allocated?
8. How many students have been suspended since 1 September 2016? Please list these suspensions by school.
 - a. How many of these were for substance abuse, and what was the substance involved? Please list these suspensions by school.
 - b. What additional action is taken when a student is suspended for substance abuse to address the substance problem?
 - c. How many students who were suspended for substance abuse subsequently attended a program, counselling, or other intervention to address substance use? How many did not?
9. How many students have been expelled since 1 September 2016? Please list these expulsions by school.
 - a. How many of these were for substance abuse, and what was the substance involved? Please list these expulsions by school.

- b. What additional action is taken when a student is expelled for substance abuse to address the substance problem?
 - c. How many students who were expelled for substance abuse subsequently attended a program, counselling, or other intervention to address substance use? How many did not?
10. How many times were police called to schools to address behavioural problems, substance use, or any other issues pertaining to a student? Please specify the schools to which police were called.

OUTPUT: SENIOR YEARS EDUCATION

1. How many senior school teachers have separated between 1 September 2016 and 31 March 2017?
 2. How many senior school teachers on temporary contracts have become permanent between 1 September 2016 and 31 March 2017?
 3. How many new senior school teachers have commenced on temporary contracts between 1 September 2016 and 31 March 2017?
 - a. How many have been recruited from interstate?
 4. How many new senior school teachers have commenced permanent employment between 1 September 2016 and 31 March 2017?
 - a. How many have been recruited from interstate?
11. How many students have been suspended since 1 September 2016? Please list these suspensions by school.
- a. How many of these were for substance abuse, and what was the substance involved? Please list these suspensions by school.
 - b. What additional action is taken when a student is suspended for substance abuse to address the substance problem?
 - c. How many students who were suspended for substance abuse subsequently attended a program, counselling, or other intervention to address substance use? How many did not?
12. How many students have been expelled since 1 September 2016? Please list these expulsions by school.
- a. How many of these were for substance abuse, and what was the substance involved? Please list these expulsions by school.
 - b. What additional action is taken when a student is expelled for substance abuse to address the substance problem?

- c. How many students who were expelled for substance abuse subsequently attended a program, counselling, or other intervention to address substance use? How many did not?
13. How many times were police called to schools to address behavioural problems, substance use, or any other issues pertaining to a student? Please specify the schools to which police were called.

OUTPUT: INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

1. How many students have applied for the Study in Australia's Northern Territory Scholarships?
 - a. At high school level?
 - b. English language?
 - c. VET?
 - d. Higher Education?
 - e. Undergraduate or post-graduate?
2. From 1 September 2016, how many international students were accepted into Northern Territory Government:
 - a. Primary schools?
 - b. Middle schools?
 - c. Senior schools?
 - d. VET programs?
 - e. Higher education?

OUTPUT: TERTIARY EDUCATION

1. How many students have graduated with teaching qualifications since 1 September 2016?
 - a. How many of them have been offered temporary positions as a classroom teacher?
 - b. How many of them have been offered a permanent position as a classroom teacher?

OUTPUT GROUP: NON-GOVERNMENT EDUCATION

1. Please itemise the provisions made in the budget for funding of non-government schools.

OUTPUT GROUP: CORPORATE AND GOVERNANCE

OUTPUT: CORPORATE AND GOVERNANCE

Staffing

1. How many Full Time Equivalents are currently employed within this Agency, broken down by Output and Business Unit?
2. How many Full Time Equivalents have resigned, retired, taken a redundancy package or been made redundant, or terminated? Please break these numbers by Output and Business Unit.
3. What has happened to these positions? Has the work been reallocated to existing staff?
4. Are there any plans to fill these positions in the near future?
5. How many teachers are on temporary contracts?
6. For those on contracts, what are the contract lengths?

EDUCATION – OTHER

Please accept our apologies for not placing these questions under an Output. It would be appreciated if your response could indicate which Output should be used.

1. Where will the new reengagement centre in Palmerston be located?
2. How many schools have applied for grants under the Building Better Schools Initiative?
 - a. How many schools were successful and how were the successful schools determined?
 - b. How many schools were unsuccessful and why? Will they be eligible to reapply?
 - c. How many schools are grouping projects with other schools?
3. Is School of the Air eligible for the Building Better Schools funding?

- a. If not, why not?
 - b. What funding is available to this important school system for the most remote students?
4. What are the criteria for schools applying for works under the Building Better Schools Initiative?
5. Where is the provision of the \$5 million committed for solar power infrastructure for school in the budget?
 - a. How many schools will be receiving the solar panels?
 - b. Which schools will be receiving solar panels and how were these schools be selected?
 - c. Were any estimates made of the long term power cost savings for the schools that will be receiving solar panels?
 - d. If estimates were made, what is the time frame for the solar panels to pay for themselves? (ie when will power savings reach \$5 million)?
 - e. Will the educational programs teaching children about solar technology still be implemented? At which schools?
6. When and where will the school principal leadership program be rolled out?
 - a. How many principals will be accepted into the program?
 - b. Where will the program take place and how long will it run?
7. When is the independent review of school funding model be expected to be complete?
 - a. Who is undertaking the review?
 - b. Will a commitment be made to implement all of the recommendations?
8. When and where will the Healthy Life, Creative Life program be rolled out?
 - a. Is it an evidence based program?

- b. How will outcomes be measured?
 - c. How many participants will there be? And how will they be chosen?
 - d. What will the program consist of?
9. Which Homeland Learning Centres will be upgraded under this budget?
- a. What are the criteria for receiving the upgrade?
 - b. What is the Government's vision for Homeland Learning Centres?
10. Why hasn't the government school in Zuccoli been budgeted for? Why has it been deferred indefinitely despite high projected population growth and large increases in enrolments at nearby Government schools?
11. Why is there no provision in the infrastructure budget for minor new works in the Department of Education?
- a. Has the Building Better Schools initiative replaced any other opportunities for schools to receive funding for Minor New Works?
 - b. Does this mean that schools will have only one opportunity for Minor New Works over a four year period to a maximum value of \$300,000?
12. What programs are in place to combat the use of tobacco, alcohol and drug use in Northern Territory Schools?
- a. Which schools have implemented these programs?
 - b. Are there any planned new programs? If so how much is budgeted, which schools will benefit, and when will the programs commence?
13. When will the school-wide positive behaviour framework be implemented, what do the 'interventions' consist of?
- a. Since its implementation, how many 'interventions' have been undertaken for student in the Northern Territory?
14. What programs will be delivered with the \$8 million for early intervention and support to tackle challenging behaviours and support students with additional needs and mental health issues? What will the interventions look like?
15. How much has been budgeted to support water safety programs for all primary school students in years 4, 5 and 6?
- a. Which programs will be supported?

- b. Has any budget allocation been made to support water safety programs for students in other year levels? Please provide details.
- 16. Is there provision in the budget to provide additional support to Rosebery Middle School and Palmerston Senior College to undertake the amalgamation into Palmerston College?
 - a. How much is budgeted?
 - b. What support provisions are planned?
- 17. How many students completed their NTCET in 2017?
 - a. How many of these were indigenous students?
- 18. Will the FAST program continue to be funded at its current level of funding?
 - a. If not, why not?
- 19. How much has been spent since 1 September 2016 to fund and resource Kormilda College?
 - a. Is there provision in the budget for ongoing support to Kormilda college?
- 20. Is there provision in the budget to continue to fund Emu Point Crèche? How much has been budgeted?
 - a. Why has Emu Point Crèche closed? Will it be reopening?
 - b. If not, why not? Is there an alternate plan to continue to provide the services previously offered at Emu Point Crèche? Please provide details.