

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 1

How many schools have requested a security fence and are still waiting for one to be installed?

**ANSWER**

Security risk assessments undertaken by the Department of Education and Communities' Safety and Security Directorate identify schools that could benefit from the provision of security fencing and other risk management strategies.

The Directorate has identified 308 schools that could benefit from the provision of full perimeter security fencing. In 2013/14 the Department will provide security fencing to 67 schools as part of its capital works programs.

To provide further details in response to this question would involve considerable time and the diversion of resources away from the core responsibilities of the Department, the provision of public education, which cannot be justified.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION****BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 2**

How many demountables are there in NSW and how much funding has been allocated to replace demountable buildings in schools in the 2013/14 Budget?

**ANSWER**

The Department of Education and Communities has a stock of almost 6,000 demountables, of which 4,325 are currently on school and TAFE sites. The Department now replaces demountable buildings with permanent accommodation, where required, from its capital works program. In 2013/14 almost \$530 million has been allocated for capital works in schools and TAFE.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 3

When will Woonona East Public School have their ageing demountables replaced?

**ANSWER**

A project to upgrade the facilities at Woonona East Public School, including the construction of new permanent administration, staff study, library facilities, and classrooms and to back convert Block A for classrooms has been nominated for funding consideration in a future capital works program. The project will continue to be assessed for funding against competing priorities in all NSW government schools.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 4

How much funding has been allocated to replace unflued gas heaters at schools in 2013/14?

**ANSWER**

Unflued gas heaters are being replaced with flued gas heaters when the majority of heaters in a school reach the end of their serviceable life. In addition, all new public schools and new school buildings are being fitted with flued gas heaters. This work is being funded from the Department's capital works program. In 2013/14 almost \$530 million has been allocated for capital works in schools and TAFE.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 5

Given NSW is receiving extra funding through the Better Schools Plan, will schools be provided with additional funding for digital devices now that the free laptop program is coming to an end?

**ANSWER**

There will be no additional funding in 2014 for digital devices when the Digital Education Revolution National Partnership ceases at the end of 2013. The State Government funded Technology for Learning computer equipment allocations will continue in 2014.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 6

If students are now going to be expected to bring their own device to school, how will the Government ensure students who do not have their own devices are not disadvantaged?

**ANSWER**

There is no expectation that students will be required to bring their own device to school. Consistent with current practice, school principals will work with their community to determine the needs of their students and ensure access to appropriate technologies to support their learning.

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**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION****BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 7**

When is the LMBR expected to be completed, what is the expected cost and by how much does this exceed the initial budget?

**ANSWER**

The LMBR Program is scheduled to be completed by the end of 2014, within the initial project timeline of eight years.

The original business case was signed off by Minister Tebbutt in 2007.

As at 30 June 2013, the total capital budget for the LMBR program is \$397.4 million.

The original business case estimated a capital budget of \$371 million.

In 2011, Treasury approved an increase to \$386 million to provide a 10% contingency to cover approximately \$14 million for additional training that had not been quantified in the original business case.

The capital budget for LMBR was further increased in the 2012/13 financial year to \$397.4 million as a result of changed business requirements in TAFE.

The original business case signed off by the former Government acknowledged that agency operational costs would develop over the life of the 8 year project.

As a long term project, the LMBR Program has had to evolve in line with the evolution of the DEC business operating model and significant reforms, such as Local Schools, Local Decisions and Smart and Skilled, which are impacting on the way state and regional offices, TAFE NSW and NSW Public Schools operate and deliver services for students, parents, teachers and staff.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 - EDUCATION – QON No. 8

Have tenders been called for the Cabramatta High School upgrade stage 3?

- a. How much has been allocated in the 2013/14 Budget?
- b. Is it on track to be completed by next year?

**ANSWER**

No.

- a. The project has yet to be tendered and, therefore, information relating to the budget allocation is commercial-in-confidence.
- b. Stage 3 is expected to be completed for Day One, Term One, 2015.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**



**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 9

Have tenders been called for the Ponds High School, the Ponds School for Specific Purposes and Wentworth Point Public School?

- a. If not why not, given they were all announced in the 2012/13 Budget more than a year ago?

**ANSWER**

Tenders have been called for the Ponds High School and the Ponds School for Specific Purposes.

Detailed planning is progressing for Wentworth Point Public School in line with surrounding developments. Once planning is complete, the project will proceed to tender.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 - EDUCATION – QON No. 10

Have tenders been called for the building of the new school at Lake Cathie and how much has been allocated in the 2013/14 Budget?

- a. Is it on track to be completed by 2015?

**ANSWER**

The project has not gone to tender as yet and therefore the funding allocation for the new school at Lake Cathie is commercial-in-confidence.

The project is on track for completion by 2015.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 11

Where in the 2013/14 Budget Papers are the details of the successful projects under the NSW Public School Upgrade Fund that you promised in your answer to question without notice 4037?

- a. Can you provide the details of the schools and for which projects have been successful?

**ANSWER**

Information on projects that were funded under the Public School Upgrade Program has been provided to schools as part of the 2013/14 budget announcements. As these projects are subject to tender, budgeted funding amounts cannot be provided publicly.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 12

Has the LMBR payroll solution been rolled out to TAFE – Northern Sydney Institute in June as planned, and have any issues emerged with its rollout?

**ANSWER**

The new LMBR HR/Payroll solution was successfully rolled out to TAFE NSW - Northern Sydney Institute in July 2013 as planned, with staff receiving their first pay using the new system on 1 August 2013. There have been no major issues with the rollout.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 13

What is the timeframe to roll out the HR/payroll to other areas?

**ANSWER**

The new HR/payroll solution is planned to be rolled out to the ten TAFE institutes by the end of 2013.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Adrian Piccoli', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**


**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 14

Will the LMBR be implemented in all schools by the end of 2014 as previously promised?

**ANSWER**

The LMBR Program is on track to deliver an integrated finance, HR/Payroll and student administration and learning management solution to all NSW public schools by the end of 2014.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 15

Are you confident that students' online privacy is properly protected and their school email and web browsing activities will not be tracked by Google for advertising purposes?

**ANSWER**

NSW Department of Education and Communities students have had a Google account to support their use of email since 2008 with no reported privacy issues.

The terms and conditions of use of these accounts includes provisions that ensure the protection of students' private details, and the Department maintains a strong relationship with Google.

The only student information shared with Google is an account name and encrypted password. Advertising is blocked for students using these accounts for email and core Apps.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Adrian Piccoli', with a small blue asterisk-like mark below the name.

**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

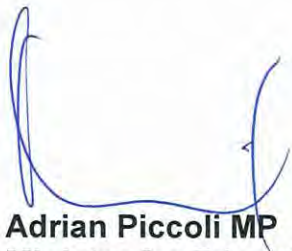
BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 16

What training is being provided to students and teachers so they understand how to protect their privacy when using their Gmail accounts or Google Apps?

**ANSWER**

The Department of Education and Communities is currently planning to make available Google Apps for Education using student email accounts. Google Apps is a set of free online tools that allow students and teachers to collaborate and share resources through a user friendly interface.

As with all online activity, the use of Google Apps will be supported by training and resources to help students learn good digital citizenship. These materials help students stay safe and work well online by considering the type of information they share, who they share material with, and responsible and appropriate ways to use technology.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**



**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

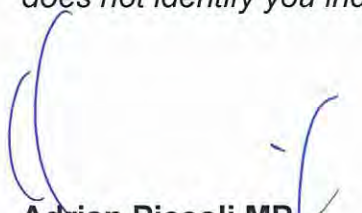
BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 17

The Department has said Google “only records aggregated, non personal data” – what does this mean and how can this information be used?

**ANSWER**

Google’s privacy policy states:

*We may share with third parties certain pieces of aggregated, non-personal information, such as the number of users who searched for a particular term, for example, or how many users clicked on a particular advertisement. Such information does not identify you individually.*



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 18

Do you believe legislation is necessary to ban cloud computing firms from data mining school students' online activity?

**ANSWER**

The Department of Education and Communities' agreement with Google for cloud based services to support education ensures the protection of private details of students. Under the Google Apps for Education initiative, the only information that will be shared with Google will be the departmental user ID of participating students and staff.

While this is the case, the Department is also educating students about how to be safe, positive and responsible citizens online through our Digital Citizenship Program, which provides materials to help students stay safe and work well online by considering the type of information they share, who they share material with, and responsible and appropriate ways to use technology.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 19

Did the NSW Government reduce its funding for computers and other digital devices in schools because of the extra resources that were coming in under the federal Government's school computer programme?

**ANSWER**

No

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Adrian Piccoli', with a large loop at the end.

**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 20

How much has been spent on IT in schools each financial year for the last 5 years?

**ANSWER**

Given the number of schools within the Department of Education and Communities, this request would require an unreasonable and substantial diversion of resources in the time specified.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 21


Why are schools that want to connect to the NBN like Duval High School in Armidale being refused permission to do so?

**ANSWER**

The Department of Education and Communities has worked closely with staff of the National Broadband Network to assess the program's offerings, seeking to identify any potential benefits for NSW public schools.

At this stage, however, the Department is not recommending that schools connect to the NBN, as all NSW public schools currently have access to a centrally provided, secure and filtered internet connection.

Questions to be resolved include how an unfiltered NBN connection would be monitored to ensure child protection obligations are met.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 22

Are schools using their professional learning budget to employ former Departmental curriculum consultants who have lost their job as a result of the restructure of the Department?

- a. Have professional learning budgets been increased to accommodate this?

**ANSWER**

New South Wales public school principals have the flexibility to allocate funds and make decisions about resources and programs according to the specific needs of their students, staff and local school community.

Schools are provided with professional learning budgets based on their staffing allocation.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

## MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

### QUESTION ON NOTICE

#### QUESTION

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 23

*Why has each teacher not been provided with hard copies of the new NSW Australian Curriculum Syllabus documents?*

#### ANSWER

The new NSW syllabuses for the Australian curriculum were published by the Board of Studies NSW in both hard copy and interactive online formats in October 2012 together with a range of materials to support implementation.

Development of these syllabuses signals a first for NSW – a website that delivers the syllabuses in an interactive online format, including a program builder that assists teachers to prepare for implementing the new syllabuses by streamlining the processes they use to plan, create and share program overviews and units of work.

Teachers are able to access world class resources and support materials online.

The Board provided print copies of the new syllabuses to every school in the state recognising that some teachers prefer to use paper copies of the syllabuses rather than the interactive online format.

The interactive online format provides a range of functions not available in the printed hard copies. Teachers are able to navigate the syllabuses by subject or stage of learning; customise views of the syllabuses eg by outcomes or by content; use the hyperlinked glossary, search syllabuses and support materials, and download specific stages as PDF and Word documents.

Schools and teachers requiring additional print copies of the new syllabuses can print all or specific parts of syllabuses from the Board's website or purchase them from the Board of Studies website at cost price.

To date over 70,000 units of work have been created using the Board of Studies' program builder application and website that I launched on 8 April 2013.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 24

How many staff currently work in the Department's Drug Prevention Unit and has there been a reduction in the support available for schools to implement drug and alcohol education?

**ANSWER**

The recent realignment of the Public Schools NSW Portfolio logically arranged the functions needed to enable schools to more effectively meet the personalised learning needs of all students.

The functions of teaching children and young people about drugs are core aspects of the curriculum. Teachers and school leaders continue to be supported in the delivery of the Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (PDHPE) syllabus which includes drug education from Kindergarten to Year 12.

Advisors are available at State level to provide support and advice to both primary and secondary schools. These functions are part of the work of the Early Learning and Primary Education and Secondary Education Units.

In addition, health and wellbeing advice and support is available through the Student Engagement and Interagency Partnerships Unit.

Schools continue to work with their communities to identify localised issues and plan and implement teaching and learning programs to support student learning and support needs.

At both the national and state level a number of specific resources and programs have been developed to support the professional learning of teachers to implement drug and alcohol education.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**



**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 25

Has the well regarded drug and alcohol prevention resource “It Couldn’t Happen To Me” been distributed to all schools?

**ANSWER**

The Department of Education and Communities has distributed 525 kits to all NSW public schools with students in Years 7-10.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION****BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 26**

What are the roles and responsibilities of the following positions and how many of each position are there in the new structure:

- a. Executive Director, Public Schools;
- b. Director, Public Schools;
- c. Director, Educational Services;
- d. School Leadership Officers?

**ANSWER**

Four Executive Directors, Public Schools NSW will each supervise a team of directors, strategically lead the delivery of educational services that are flexible and responsive to the needs of schools and work with their colleagues in State Office to lead public education across New South Wales.

Sixty five Directors, Public Schools NSW will provide educational leadership and support to principals, ensure principals' accountability and work closely with principals to resolve the more complex operational and educational issues. Each Director has a responsibility to effectively establish and maintain relationships with MPs, local government agencies, councils, various community groups, unions and principal associations.

Four Directors, Educational Services will coordinate services, programs and provisions required by schools, work closely with the Directors, Public Schools NSW for the planning and coordinating of matters relating to policy, compliance and learning systems and with State Office to ensure effective communication of and support for state wide directions.

Fifty (full time equivalent) School Leadership Officer positions drawn from the principal cohort will work closely with colleague principals and provide enhanced professional support to build capacity and meet accountability requirements.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

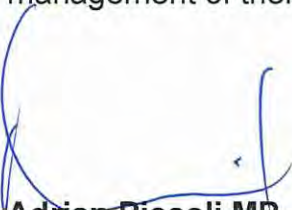
**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 27

Who is responsible for the management of data and school performance information now that the School Performance Officer positions are abolished?

**ANSWER**

Under Local Schools, Local Decisions, principals have responsibility for the management of their school data and performance information.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 28

How many consultant positions are responsible for supporting students from non-English speaking and refugee backgrounds under the old structure and the new structure?

**ANSWER**

There is support available for schools both at the State and local levels.

At the State level, there are teams of curriculum experts with the responsibility for supporting schools in the delivery of the curriculum including multicultural education. This expertise will be relevant to early learning, primary and secondary schools.

At the local level, officers in the Educational Services teams in locations close to schools across the State will continue to work with principals to access the advice and support they need.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**QUESTION - EDUCATION 29**

How many meetings have you or your office had with Child Care NSW since you announced the Government's response to the Brennan Review?

**ANSWER**

Since March 2013 ministerial staff have met with representatives from Child Care NSW on two occasions.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 30

Will the long day care subsidy be extended to for-profit long day care operators and will they have to employ a trained teacher in order to receive this subsidy funding?

**ANSWER**

The Department of Education and Communities has discussed potential changes to the long day care grants program with the early childhood sector and feedback is currently being considered. No final decisions about changes to the program have been made.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 31

Given the Government's support for the Brennan Review recommendation that a capital funding program be established, will you provide funding for Alstonville Preschool so that the preschool does not have to close at the end of next year due to a lack of a venue?

**ANSWER**

The Not-for-profit Preschools Capital Works Project is a two-staged Expression of Interest process. Three services from the Alstonville area have been successful in the first stage of the EOI, one of which is Alstonville Community Preschool Inc.

These successful applicants, and others across the state, have been advised of their entry to stage two.

Until applications are received in stage two, and then assessed, no further information can be given on the provision of capital funding to specific preschools.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 32

Have applications opened for the promised \$5m in capital funds for preschool and what are the criteria to allocate such funds?

**ANSWER**

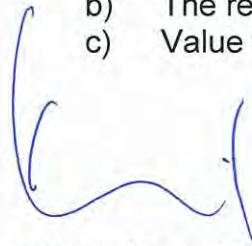
The \$5 million capital funds project is a two-staged expression of interest process. Applications were opened on 11 July for the first stage.

Stage 1 eligibility criteria are:

- a) Services must be located in a predefined Priority Local Government Area
- b) Services must be compliant with the requirements of the Early Childhood Education and Care National Regulations, including Provider Approval
- c) Services must be community based and not-for-profit
- d) Services must be centre based (i.e. not mobile)
- e) Services must be open for at least 15 hours per week
- f) Services must be open for at least 40 weeks per year
- g) Services must be proposing to increase capacity.

The criteria applied at Stage 2 are:

- a) The relative remoteness of each service location based on the Accessibility Remoteness Index Australia (ARIA+)
- b) The relative undersupply of preschool places in the service area
- c) Value for money, defined as cost per new preschool place.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**



**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 33

Have any further childcare providers been found to have staff that have not had the mandatory working with children check after the Department wrote to all centres last year?

**ANSWER**

There have been 106 instances of non-compliance which have been referred by the Department of Education and Communities to the Office of the Children's Guardian, which administers the Working With Children Check.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 34

Has the Every Student, Every School policy achieved its goal of providing a specialist teacher to every regular school in NSW?

**ANSWER**

Since Term 3, 2012 every regular public school in NSW now receives a specialist teacher allocation following the implementation of the Every Student, Every School strategy.

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**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION****BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 35**

How many schools received a reduced annual allocation for learning and support in 2013 compared to 2012?

**ANSWER**

A school's learning and support resource allocation is made up of two components – a specialist teacher allocation and annual flexible funding.

The learning and support resource allocation is based on the size of the school and the changing learning needs of the students determined through longitudinal NAPLAN data.

For 2013, more than \$990,000 was added to the state wide learning and support resource allocation. In 2013, the specialist teacher allocations in schools remained the same and there were variations in the flexible funding component because of enrolment differences and changing student learning needs.

As a result, 1,294 schools had an increased learning and support resource allocation for 2013, while 794 schools had a reduced allocation. Of these 794 schools, 442 schools had reduced allocations of less than \$1,000.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No.36

Given the extra load on school counsellors as a result of the Every Student, Every School changes, are schools being provided with additional school counsellor time?

**ANSWER**

The Every Student, Every School strategy has provided all regular NSW public schools with specialist resources to support their students with additional educational needs according to local needs and priorities. Students do not need a formal application beyond the school or assessment involving school counsellors in order to access assistance through these resources. Schools are able to prioritise the work of school counsellors in accordance with their planning to support students with additional needs within Every Student, Every School.

School Counsellor allocations are adjusted each year for the following school year. The Term 4 process is part of the annual allocation process of school counsellor time.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 37

Has the functional assessment tool been implemented in all schools as promised?

- a. What training has been provided to teachers to use this tool?

**ANSWER**

The functional assessment tool, now called the Personalised Learning and Support Signposting Tool (PLASST), is in the final stage of development with more than 560 NSW public schools having completed a trial involving more than 24,800 students.

It is expected that the tool will be widely available for teachers to use in public schools across NSW from early 2014.

Training about the Disability Standards for Education and training about the use of the PLASST were provided to teachers in schools undertaking the trial. Training will be extended to all schools to support the implementation of the PLASST.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 38

How much funding has been spent on the Literacy and Numeracy Action Plan in 2011, 2012, and 2013?

**ANSWER**

Expenditure on the Literacy and Numeracy Action Plan to the end of 2012 was \$18.046 million. Information on expenditure in 2013 will be available after the end of this calendar year.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION****BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 39**

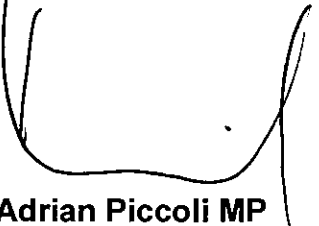
Why did the number of FTE employees in Secondary Education services decline by 665 between the 2011/12 and 2012/13 financial year?

- a. How many of these are teaching positions?

**ANSWER**

The 2013-2014 State Budget papers provide advice on forecast service measures and financial indicators for individual service groups. The full-time equivalent employees outlined in the school education service groups include an estimate of all staff from across the Department of Education and Communities that are engaged in supporting the delivery of education programs in schools including back office staff. This number takes into account all staff providing services that support the work of schools, in addition to teachers.

A number of factors impact the total number of employees supporting these areas. These factors include a reduction in staff as a result of changes to Commonwealth funded National Partnership positions in schools, along with reforms to create back office efficiencies within the Department.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 40

Why are FTE employees in Secondary Education forecast to decline by a further 315 in 2013/14 when the number of enrolments is forecast to increase?

**ANSWER**

The 2013-2014 State Budget papers provide advice on forecast service measures and financial indicators for individual service groups. The full-time equivalent employees outlined in the school education service groups include an estimate of all staff from across the Department of Education and Communities that are engaged in supporting the delivery of education programs in schools including head office staff. This number takes into account all staff providing services that support the work of schools, in addition to teachers.

A number of factors impact the total number of employees supporting these areas. These factors include a reduction in staff as a result of changes to Commonwealth funded National Partnership positions in schools, along with reforms to create back office efficiencies within the Department.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**



**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 41

Who is responsible in the Department for overseeing the implementation of the Auditor General's recommendations from the report on the Impact of the Raised School Leaving Age and what action has occurred so far?

**ANSWER**

A steering group with broad representation was established and developed an implementation plan for the Department of Education and Communities to address the recommendations.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

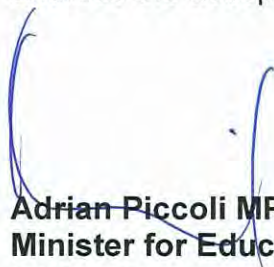
**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 42

What strategies are being implemented to respond to the Auditor General's recommendations about unmet demand for targeted support programmes and appropriate alternative education programs?

**ANSWER**

The Department of Education and Communities developed an implementation plan to address the accepted recommendations and these are being implemented.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Adrian Piccoli', is written over the printed name and title.

**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 43

Can you confirm that all Links to Learning programmes will continue to be funded beyond December 2013?

**ANSWER**

Links to Learning programs are funded to December 2013. Budgets for 2014 are yet to be determined.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Adrian Piccoli', is written over the printed name.

**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 44

What funding was allocated to the School Safety and Security Directorate in 2012-2013

**ANSWER**

All Department staff are dedicated to the safety and security of fellow staff and students.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 45

What funding will be allocated to the School Safety and Security Directorate in 2013-2014?

**ANSWER**

All Department staff are dedicated to the safety and security of fellow staff and students.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Adrian Piccoli', with a small arrow pointing to the right.

**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 46

How many staff, expressed as full time equivalent, were employed in the School Safety and Security Directorate in 2012 and in 2013?

**ANSWER**

All staff employed by the Department of Education and Communities are dedicated to the safety and security of staff and students.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

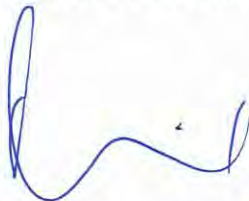
BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 47

How will you address concerns about the amalgamation of the funding for ESL teachers into the Resource Allocation Model, including how the English language needs of migrant and refugee children will be monitored and whether there are adequate oversight, consultative and evaluation mechanisms?

**ANSWER**

English as a Second Language (ESL) funding will be provided to schools from 2014 as part of the progressive implementation of the new Resource Allocation Model and will be allocated to eligible schools as per the current determination from the ESL survey information. There will be no reduction in the total full time equivalent allocated to support students with additional learning needs resulting from having English as a second language.

Teams of state level curriculum experts will have the responsibility for supporting schools in the delivery of the curriculum, including Multicultural Education and ESL.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 48

How will schools control 70% of their school budget under Local Schools, Local Decisions, given the Resource Allocation Model uses standard salary rates for teachers, with the Department, rather than the school managing the “unders” and the “overs”, meaning any savings made on salaries actually remain with the Department?

**ANSWER**

The resources allocated to public schools across the system under the Resource Allocation Model will represent over 70% of the state public school education budget.

The use of a standard cost for teachers under the Resource Allocation Model means that principals will focus on the suitability of the teacher to meet student needs rather than the cost of the teacher.

Over 60% of teachers are at, or near the top, of the pay scale. A standard cost removes the volatility at the individual school level.

All salary related resources are distributed to schools. There are no net savings retained by the Department.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**



**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 49

What happens under the Resource Allocation Model if the short term sick leave taken by staff and teachers exceeds the allocation provided to cover this?

- a. Will schools be provided with supplementary funds?

**ANSWER**

Schools currently use short term casual relief budgets to fund short term sick leave, as well as other short term statutory leave types (long service leave, parental leave, military leave, special leave etc.).

As statutory leave will not be charged to schools under the Resource Allocation Model, schools will, in effect, have more funds available to support short term sick leave.

Under full implementation of the Resource Allocation Model short term casual relief supplementation will not be available in its current form. To further support schools the Department of Education and Communities is developing a shared risk model that will address the instances of low frequency but high cost sick leave expenditure for schools.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

## MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

### QUESTION ON NOTICE

#### QUESTION

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 50

Will the components that make up the Resource Allocation Model, including the individual schools base allocations and the equity loadings, be publicly available?

a. How will these components be adjusted for increased costs?

#### ANSWER

The components that make up the Resource Allocation Model (RAM) and the specific mechanisms used to determine school allocations will be publicly available.

Allocations are determined on an annual basis and where necessary there will be adjustments for increased costs.

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**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

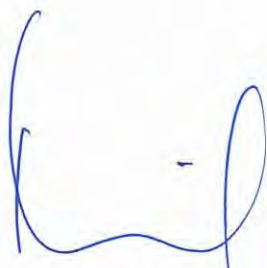
**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 51

Are schools participating in the roll out of the RAM for 2014 still on track to receive their indicative funding by the beginning of Term 4?

**ANSWER**

Yes.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'A. Piccoli', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 52

When will all schools move to the RAM?

**ANSWER**

Schools will be transitioned on to the new Resource Allocation Model (RAM) over the next few years.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

## MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

### QUESTION ON NOTICE

#### QUESTION

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 53

What is the estimated cost of implementing the Great Teaching, Inspired Learning reforms?

- a. How much has been allocated in the 2013/14 Budget to implement these reforms?

#### ANSWER

Education, training and early childhood education received a record \$13.95 billion in the 2013-14 NSW Budget.

The 2013-14 Budget included funding for the National Education Reform Agreement (NERA). The agreement will deliver an additional \$5 billion to NSW schools over six years.

These additional funds will enable NSW to implement already announced reforms, including Great Teaching, Inspired Learning.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 54

Have the Assessment Guides to improve the assessment of 'in school practical experience' been developed?

**ANSWER**

The Institute of Teachers has commenced a project in consultation with major stakeholders to develop a Professional Experience Framework that will include protocols and materials to strengthen professional experience, including the assessment of teacher education students on their placement in schools.

These materials will include an evidence guide that will describe what teacher education students may do to demonstrate the various Graduate Teacher Standards.

Development of the evidence guide has commenced and is drawing on materials already developed by several initial teacher education providers.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 55

What progress has been made with the commitment to have all NSW teachers accredited under the professional teaching standards, and how will longstanding, experienced teachers be required to demonstrate their competence?

**ANSWER**

The introduction of the Australian Teacher Performance and Development Framework provides an opportunity to bring all teachers within the scope of the *Institute of Teachers Act 2004*. The Framework is based on the Australian Professional Standards for Teachers. By complying with the Framework, the experienced teacher workforce will demonstrate that they meet the Proficient Teacher Standards.

The Institute is consulting with teacher and principal organisations and school authorities to determine the preferred model for incorporating all teachers within the *Institute of Teachers Act 2004*.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 56

How do you intend to achieve your goal of high school students having HSC Band 5 results in at least 3 subjects to enrol in a teaching degree if universities do not agree?

**ANSWER**

The Institute of Teachers, in consultation with a number of Vice-Chancellors and all Deans of Education, has developed draft advice on ways to comply with the new requirement that HSC school leavers have three Band 5 results including English.

Only those initial teacher education programs that comply with all Institute of Teachers' requirements including revised entry requirements will be approved by the Minister for Education for teacher accreditation purposes and entry to the teaching profession in New South Wales.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**



**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**  
**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**QUESTION**

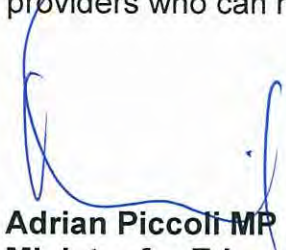
BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 57

What progress has been made with agreements between teacher education providers and school authorities for agreements to be in place to better match supply with demand?

**ANSWER**

The NSW Institute of Teachers has started to develop a framework outlining the requirements and conditions for a quality professional experience.

During 2014, partnership agreements will be negotiated, based on supply and demand information as well as the Institute's framework, with a view to having all agreements in place by 2015 between those schools and initial teacher education providers who can meet the obligations set out in the agreements.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 58

Are you on track to publish the first annual reports on the quality of NSW teacher education programs next year?

**ANSWER**

Yes.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'A' followed by a series of loops and a final vertical stroke.

**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 59

How will the Institute of Teachers assess the collaboration that takes place in schools as professional learning for accreditation purposes?

**ANSWER**

The NSW Institute of Teachers and school authorities' reporting processes are to be streamlined and will give greater recognition to quality assured school-based, classroom-focused professional development.

Schools will be supported in registering school-based professional development with the Institute. This professional development will count towards teachers' 50 required hours of Institute Registered professional development.

The Institute is also reviewing its existing professional development approval process to identify best practice professional development. All school authorities are adopting measures to improve their professional development and collaboration strategies.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 60

How much funding did NSW receive under the “Rewards for Great Teachers National Partnership” and how was this funding spent?

**ANSWER**

New South Wales has received \$18.8 million. The three education sectors and the NSW Institute of Teachers are using the money to implement the Australian Teacher Performance and Development Framework, which will contribute to the further development and accreditation of experienced teachers and leaders.

In addition, funds will support the implementation of certification processes for Highly Accomplished and Lead Teachers, consistent with the national certification process.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

## MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

### QUESTION ON NOTICE

#### QUESTION

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 61

Will the Government's decision to allow hunting in national parks mean that students will not be able to visit the National Parks gazetted for this purpose, and what action is being taken to ensure the learning experiences of school and TAFE students is not diminished as a result of the Government's Supplementary Pest Control Program?

#### ANSWER

The Department conducts a risk assessment for all offsite activities before a decision is made to ensure the health safety and wellbeing of those involved in the planned activity.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

## MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

### QUESTION ON NOTICE

#### QUESTION

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 62

Has the Game Council provided curriculum support material for any public schools?

a. How many schools have used this material and what action is now being taken to review that material given the adverse findings of the Dunn Report into the Game Council?

#### ANSWER

Principals and teachers make decisions about the teaching and learning materials they use to support curriculum implementation. These decisions take into account the suitability of the materials to the curriculum and the needs of their students.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

## MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

### QUESTION ON NOTICE

#### QUESTION

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 63

Are there any plans to expand shooting as a sport in NSW Government schools?

#### ANSWER

The Department has a small number of schools that have target shooting as a regular activity in their school program. Each school decides what school activities they will offer students in their school program.

The Department has no plans to direct schools to mandate specific sporting or other school activities to be part of their program. If a school chooses to include shooting in their program they will need to work with the relevant areas of the Department to undertake appropriate due diligence before establishing a program.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 64

How many teaching positions will be cut from Yanco Agricultural School to manage the loss of \$460,000 in funding over the next 3 years?

- a. Is it true that the farming machinery at the school is more than 30 years old and some of it does not meet occupational health and safety standards?

**ANSWER**

No teaching positions will be cut from Yanco Agricultural High School. There is a range of farming machinery at Yanco Agricultural High School. The school engaged the company MD Safety in September 2012 to conduct a Work Health and Safety Inspection Audit. The audit report identified machinery which meets Work Health and Safety standards and is under 30 years of age.

A number of items of machinery were identified that required modification to meet Work Health and Safety standards and the school has been progressively working towards making these modifications. A number of items of farm machinery were identified to be disposed of immediately. The school has completed this.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**



**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 65

Is the Government committed to continuing to adequately fund three agricultural high schools in NSW?

**ANSWER**

Yes. The NSW Government is committed to continuing to provide adequate funding to all NSW public schools.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Adrian Piccoli', is written over the printed name and title.

**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 66

Will you commit to maintaining funding for the ABE program so that students at Ashford, Bundarra and Emmaville Central Schools can continue to complete their Higher School Certificate locally?

**ANSWER**

Students at Ashford, Bundarra and Emmaville Central Schools will continue to have the opportunity to complete their Higher School Certificate locally.

A new Resource Allocation Model (RAM) is being introduced for all schools as part of the Local Schools Local Decisions initiative.

For schools like Ashford, Bundarra and Emmaville, the RAM will provide funding based on student numbers and need, recognising the complexity and characteristics of each individual school and reinforcing the fact that students are at the centre of decisions made. The schools will be able to manage more of their resources to better meet the needs of students.

Ashford, Bundarra and Emmaville Central Schools will be advised of their funding allocation under the RAM as early as practicable in Term 4 this year. This allocation will include needs-based funding loadings for the 2014 school year.

Current modelling indicates RAM funding would enable the schools to continue a program in 2014 and beyond, that delivers similar benefits to schools as the current ABE program.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 67

Are there plans to amalgamate Port Macquarie and Westport High Schools?

**ANSWER**

No.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 68

How many staff (expressed as FTE) are currently employed at the Maitland Tutorial School and will all these positions transfer to the Rutherford High School site when the tutorial school moves onto its grounds?

**ANSWER**

The Maitland Tutorial Centre is not designated as a separate school. The classes conducted at the centre are a component of Rutherford Technology High School's educational program. However, these classes are located on a separate site.

There are currently 4.4 FTE teachers at the Maitland Tutorial Centre. This includes release time for three classroom teachers and one head teacher. There are also 3.0 School Learning and Support Officer positions. All of these positions are shown on Rutherford Technology High School's 2013 Enrolment and Entitlement Report.

When the Maitland Tutorial Centre relocates to buildings on the Rutherford Technology High School site all staffing positions will relocate as well. The actual number of staff that this affects will depend on student enrolments in the Maitland Tutorial Centre at the time.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 69

Will the Maitland Tutorial school continue to exist as a separate school when it is co-located with Rutherford High School?

**ANSWER**

The Maitland Tutorial Centre is part of Rutherford Technology High School located on a separate site. It does not exist as a separate school. This will not change when it is relocated to the new site.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 70

What consultation has occurred with both school communities about the proposed relocation of the Maitland Tutorial School to the Rutherford High School site?

**ANSWER**

In developing the business case a project control group was formed to advise on options and to ensure that there was representative consultation. The group included: the Rutherford Technology High School Principal who is also responsible for the Maitland Tutorial Centre; the Rutherford Primary School Principal; Asset Management Staff; Parent and Community representation through the Regional P&C representative; and Student Support Services representation.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 71

Are you concerned that in 2012, nearly 1400 or 15% of K – 2 classes in NSW had 25 or more students, which is above the requirement of the class size policy?

**ANSWER**

In 2012 a Class Size Policy was re-negotiated and implemented, expiring in 2016.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 72

What action are you taking to ensure that all K – 2 classes in NSW adhere to the class size policy?

**ANSWER**

NSW government schools are staffed according to a state wide staffing formula. With student need in mind, Principals form classes as closely as possible to state average class sizes of 20 for Kindergarten, 22 for Year 1 and 24 for Year 2.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**



**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 73

How many temporary teachers were employed in:

- a. Primary schools as at the end of June 2012?
- b. Secondary schools as at the end of June 2012?
- c. What percentage of the total number of teachers is this?

**ANSWER**

- a. 7,857
- b. 4,692
- c. 20.3%



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**  
**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 74

How many temporary teachers were employed in:

- a. Primary schools as at the end of June 2013?
- b. Secondary schools as at the end of June 2013?
- c. What percentage of the total number of teachers is this?

**ANSWER**

- a. 8,418
- b. 4,747
- c. 21.3%



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 75

How many NSW teachers are working off-site on full pay while investigations of serious/professional misconduct are undertaken?

**ANSWER**

Twenty nine as at 26 August 2013.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Adrian Piccoli', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 76

How long on average do investigations of serious/professional misconduct take?

**ANSWER**

On average, investigations of serious professional misconduct related to child protection take twelve months to complete.

On average, investigations of serious professional misconduct not related to child protection take seven months to complete.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 77

What proportion of teachers investigated are found guilty of serious/professional misconduct?

**ANSWER**

Approximately 17% of serious professional misconduct investigations related to child protection are sustained.

Approximately 40% of other serious professional misconduct investigations are sustained.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 78

Why was the combined primary and secondary education services budget been underspent by more than \$226m in 2012/13?

**ANSWER**

The variation in the 2012/13 Revised and 2012/13 Budget for Primary and Secondary Education Services in Government Schools was mainly the result of changes in the timing of Commonwealth National Partnerships funding and a number of one-off adjustments to employee related on-costs, insurance and depreciation



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 79

Of the jobs that have been gone, what proportion have been from the areas of TAFE Outreach, Disability Support and Multicultural Units?

**ANSWER**

The proportion of jobs reduced from TAFE Outreach, Disability Support and Multicultural Units is 1% of the total positions that have been reduced.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 80

Will TAFE campuses at Cessnock, Maitland and Glendale continue to offer courses in Tourism and Hospitality in 2014?

**ANSWER**

Cessnock Campus - no, due to significant decline in demand.

Maitland Campus - in Semester 1, 2014, Certificate III Hospitality (Food and Beverage) and Certificate II Kitchen Operations will continue to be offered at this campus.

Glendale Campus - no, due to significant decline in demand.

Students at Cessnock or Glendale who are interested in Tourism and Hospitality have been offered these programs through other campuses or flexible delivery options where possible.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**



**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 81

How will registered training providers be assessed and monitored?

- a. How will students lodge complaints about unscrupulous providers?
- b. What will be the sanctions for non performance by registered training organisations?

**ANSWER**

Registered training organisations that are approved for Smart and Skilled will be assessed and monitored by the Department of Education and Communities' State Training Services. A 'Smart and Skilled: Quality Framework' will set out the rules for managing quality across registered training organisations. There will be strict eligibility criteria to become a Smart and Skilled provider and sanctions for non-performance.

- a. Students will be able to lodge complaints with State Training Services or Australian Skills Quality Authority.
- b. Likely sanctions for non-compliance by registered training organisations include:
  - formal reprimands
  - suspension of contract/funding until problems are rectified
  - termination of contract.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 82

Does the Government intend to put all government funding for vocational education and training out to tender from 2014?

**ANSWER**

No



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 83

How will the future of TAFE as a quality provider of vocational education and training be assured under a full competitive model?

**ANSWER**

TAFE NSW will continue to be funded by the NSW Government. It will receive a separate and distinct budget and be accountable for specific outcomes to meet its community service obligations.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 84

How will you ensure TAFE is not disadvantaged in an environment of greater competition given it has a range of overheads that are not necessarily incurred by the private sector, including public sector wages and conditions, management of significant infrastructure across NSW, and greater corporate governance costs?

**ANSWER**

TAFE NSW will receive a separate and distinct budget that includes operational base funding, community service obligation funding and TAFE's share of entitlement funding which will be subject to contestability.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 85

How will you restrict the level of competition in rural and remote areas to make sure these communities have access to reliable and high quality training organisations?

**ANSWER**

The Smart and Skilled tender will identify the capacity of providers to deliver in rural and remote areas.

TAFE NSW and approved Adult and Community Education providers will receive community service obligation payments to support their training in rural and remote areas.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

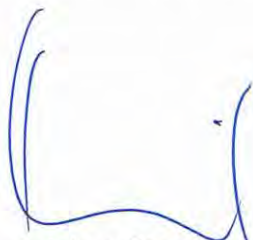
**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 86

How do you intend to address the concerns that have been raised by the Australian Industry Group, among others, that demand-driven funding approaches can lead to excessive enrolments in some industry areas rather than addressing the skills needs of the economy?

**ANSWER**

A Skills List will define which qualifications will be eligible for government funding under Smart and Skilled. A public consultation process has received input from industry and regional communities on developing the Skills List. The consultation feedback will help to ensure that the NSW Skills List meets the skills needs of industry in NSW. The Skills List will be reviewed on a regular basis to ensure it continues to meet the needs of the economy and industry.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 87

Why was the budget for vocational education and training underspent by over \$101m in 2012/13, and has this funding been rolled over into 2013/14?

**ANSWER**

The variation between the Revised 2012/13 and Budget 2012/13 of \$101 million is primarily the result of the changes in timing of Commonwealth National Partnership funding. The underspend in the Commonwealth programs was rolled over into 2013/14.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 88

Why has the number of apprentices employed by the NSW Government declined from 1,853 in 2012 to 1,545 in 2013?

**ANSWER**

Apprentice numbers decreased as at March 2013 in part due to a 45% increase in apprentice completions in 2012.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**



## MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

### QUESTION ON NOTICE

#### QUESTION

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 89

What is the dollar per actual student contact hour: (ASH) rate for:

- a. metal fabrication at Hunter TAFE;
- b. electrical trades at Hunter TAFE;
- c. carpentry and joinery at Hunter TAFE?

#### ANSWER

The dollar per actual student contact hour (ASH) rate for the 2012-13 financial year was:

- a. metal fabrication – \$/ASH: \$15.40
- b. electrical trades – \$/ASH: \$9.83
- c. carpentry and joinery – \$/ASH: \$13.65



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 90

What was the total number of students enrolled in a fine arts diploma in 2012?

**ANSWER**

The total number of enrolments in diploma and above fine arts courses in 2012 was 1,325.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 91

What is the total number of students enrolled in a fine arts diploma in 2013?

**ANSWER**

The total number of enrolments in diploma and above fine arts courses in 2013 as at 11 August was 986.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 92

What was the total number of students enrolled in a fine arts certificate 3 in 2012?

**ANSWER**

881.

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**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 93

What is the total number of students enrolled in a fine arts certificate 3 in 2013?

**ANSWER**

The total number of enrolments in a certificate III fine arts course in 2013 as at 11 August was 289.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 94

Why has Section 28 of the Education Act 1990 not been followed with regard to the closure of Wyong Grove Public School?

**ANSWER**

Section 28 of the *Education Act, 1990* allows the Minister to announce schools that the Minister proposes to close. Section 28 does not apply in the case of one teacher schools; if the majority of parents of children attending the school approve of the closure; or if the Minister is satisfied that exceptional circumstances exist. In the case of Wyong Grove Public School the Department advises the majority of parents approved of the amalgamation.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 95

Why was the announcement of the closure of Wyong Grove Public School made by the Member for Wyong, Darren Webber, on his Facebook page rather than properly consulting and advising parents and the local community?

**ANSWER**

On 4 June 2013, Mr Darren Webber MP, Member for Wyong, announced in person and in the presence of media at Wyong Grove Public School, that Wyong Grove and Wyong Public Schools would be amalgamating from the start of 2014.

This was followed up by a letter dated 4 June 2013 to all families concerned. A copy of the letter was sent home with each student. As many families as possible were contacted personally with a follow up phone call.

Direct community consultation occurred in October and November 2012, including a survey to all families with children at Wyong and Wyong Grove Public Schools as well as the preschools in the Wyong area.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 - EDUCATION – QON NO. 96

Will you guarantee that the Wyong Grove Public School site will remain a community asset, with any future use to be determined in consultation with the community?

**ANSWER**

Plans for the future use of the Wyong Grove Public School site are still under consideration.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**



**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 97

What progress has been made with transitioning schools' health and safety processes to meet the requirements of the NSW Work Health and Safety Act 2011?

**ANSWER**

Following the introduction of the *Work Health and Safety Act 2011*, the Department of Education and Communities provided NSW government schools with resources outlining the key changes arising from the new Act.

The Department also conducted training for senior staff in the Department concerning due diligence responsibilities under the Act to ensure that these new responsibilities are understood.

The Department is taking action to update policies, procedures and resources to address the requirements of the Act and codes of practice as they are released. As these documents are finalised, they are uploaded to the Department's online Safety Management System which provides schools with access to key policies, procedures and support documents.

The Department is consulting with the NSW Teachers Federation and the Public Service Association of NSW in relation to a new work health and safety policy, consultation and issue resolution procedures. WorkCover NSW has also assisted in consultation and the aim is to have these documents in place during Term 4 of the 2013 school year.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 98

What overall budgetary allocation has been made in 2013/14 to ensure that the Department's NSW Work Health and Safety Act 2011 officers are discharging their due diligence duties?

**ANSWER**

The budget is managed within existing budget allocations.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'A. Piccoli', written in a cursive style.

**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 99

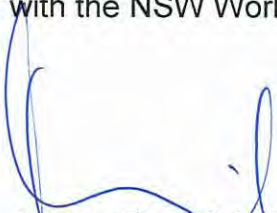
How is the Department of Education and Communities ensuring compliance with the Department's duties under the NSW Work Health and Safety Act 2011 relating to identifying and monitoring the health of any employees who are at risk of asbestos exposure in the carrying out of asbestos-related work?

**ANSWER**

It is the Department of Education and Communities' strict practice to ensure that the removal and remediation of asbestos containing material is only carried out by appropriately trained building and maintenance contractors in compliance with WorkCover NSW requirements.

The Department maintains an Asbestos Register, publically available on its website, containing information about the existence and location of any known or presumed asbestos containing materials on school and TAFE sites, based on advice from qualified hygienists.

Any asbestos containing materials found in schools and TAFE colleges are managed in accordance with the Department's Asbestos Management Plan which complies with the NSW Work Health and Safety legislation.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 100

Across TAFE, how many education support staff position (permanent and temporary) have been lost since 11 September 2012?

**ANSWER**

Twenty three education support staff positions (permanent and temporary) have been reduced since 11 September 2012.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 101

How many TAFE education support staff positions (permanent and temporary) have been lost at each of the ten TAFE Institutes since 11 September 2012?

**ANSWER**

From 11 September 2012 to 30 June 2013:

|                           |              |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| North Coast Institute     | 5 positions  |
| Northern Sydney Institute | 5 positions  |
| Western Sydney Institute  | 10 positions |
| Hunter Institute          | 2 positions  |
| Sydney institute          | 1 position   |



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 102

How many agency and/or contract staff are currently engaged across TAFE?

**ANSWER**

Agency and/or contract staff are employed according to business demand. This demand fluctuates across Institutes over the year according to their unique business needs.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No.103

Are there any agency and/or contract staff engaged in TAFE to undertake the work that could be performed by an employee whose job has been deleted or who has been made redundant?

**ANSWER**

No.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Adrian Piccoli', is written over the printed name and title.

**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 104

Will TAFE guarantee that the reduction in education support staff across TAFE will not lead to a reduction in students' access to learning support services such as libraries, IT facilities, counselling and social activities?

**ANSWER**

TAFE NSW is committed to meeting the vocational education and training needs of the people of NSW by providing inclusive learning support services. Institutes will continue to provide a range of support services for learners which enable them to achieve their learning goals, and transition to work and further education as appropriate.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**



**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 105

Why hasn't the South Western Sydney Institute of TAFE used the profile and service review data regarding the work performed and results achieved by disability teaching consultants in the final determination to strip teaching consultants of their teaching duties?

**ANSWER**

The Teacher Consultants for Disabilities at TAFE NSW – South Western Sydney Institute have a teaching load of six hours per week. This has not been changed.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

106. How much has been spent on rebranding TAFE Institutes to date, including:
- a. Concept and design work;
  - b. Printing of new materials;
  - c. Any other costs associated with new branding at TAFE Institutes?

**ANSWER**

TAFE Institutes invested in rebranding activities in the financial year 2012/13. All activities were funded from commercial surpluses.

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 107

How will NSW TAFE and other private providers be funded for outcomes under 'Smart and Skilled'?

**ANSWER**

TAFE NSW and other private and community providers will be funded for student training outcomes reported to the Department of Education and Communities.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 108

Under "Smart and Skilled" if students fail, will they receive another entitlement?

**ANSWER**

Under Smart and Skilled, students can access government subsidised training as defined on the Skills List multiple times. They can take up entitlement qualifications as long as they have not attained a Certificate IV or above qualification, except for apprentices and trainees who are entitled regardless of their level of prior education.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 109

Under "Smart and Skilled" if students enrol with a private provider and have to transfer to NSW TAFE, explain what happens to the funding?

**ANSWER**

Under the Smart and Skilled entitlement, eligible individuals will choose to enrol in a government subsidised course through TAFE NSW or an approved private or community training organisation. Funding for the entitlement will follow the student to the approved training organisation in which they enrol. Funds will follow the student if they shift enrolment from one provider to another.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 111

How many permanent NSW TAFE teachers have been offered voluntary redundancy during 2013? How many permanent NSW TAFE teachers have accepted a voluntary redundancy during 2013?

**ANSWER**

101 voluntary redundancies were offered to permanent teachers during 2013. 101 permanent teachers accepted voluntary redundancies during 2013.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 112

What has been the cost to NSW taxpayers for these redundancies in 2013?

**ANSWER**

\$8,834,167.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

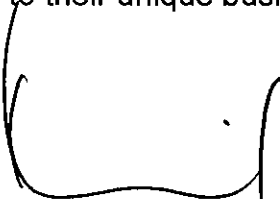
**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 113

How many frontline part time casual teachers have lost some or all of their work due to budget cuts in 2013?

**ANSWER**

TAFE does not establish casual positions. Casual staff are employed according to business demand. This demand fluctuates across Institutes over the year according to their unique business needs.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**



**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 114

How many TAFE courses have been cut because of budget cuts in 2013?

**ANSWER**

TAFE NSW Institutes regularly review and adjust program offerings across all industry areas to ensure the efficient use of public funding and that the training provided meets the workforce development needs of the State. Decisions about course offerings at individual TAFE Institutes are made to meet the needs of local industry and community.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 115

Can you provide a breakdown of NSW TAFE courses that have had to reduce delivery hours to students due to budget cuts in 2013 compared to delivery in 2012?

**ANSWER**

TAFE NSW Institutes regularly review and adjust program offerings across all industry areas to ensure the efficient use of public funding and that the training provided meets the workforce development needs of the State. Decisions about course offerings at individual TAFE Institutes are made to meet the needs of local industry and community.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 116

How many frontline Institute Multicultural Educational Consultants have been cut in 2013?

**ANSWER**

Nil as at 30 June 2013.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Adrian Piccoli', is written over the printed name and title.

**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 117

How many frontline specialist Outreach consultants have been cut in 2013?

**ANSWER**

As at 30 June 2013, Outreach consultant positions had been reduced by 3.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Adrian Piccoli', is written over the printed name below.

**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No.118

How many frontline literacy and numeracy specialists have been cut in 2013?

**ANSWER**

As at 30 June 2013, literacy and numeracy specialist positions have been reduced by 4.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Adrian Piccoli', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No.119

How many frontline access and equity specialist positions (including frontline disability teacher consultants and frontline Aboriginal teacher consultants) will be cut in 2013?

**ANSWER**

As at 30 June 2013, the following access and equity positions have been reduced:

- Outreach coordinators – 3
- Aboriginal teacher consultants – Nil
- Disability teacher consultants – Nil
- Multicultural education coordinators – Nil.

The number of positions to be reduced in Semester 2, 2013 will be determined through engagement and consultation with staff, unions and other key stakeholders as required under Fair Work Australia.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No.120

How many frontline NSW TAFE counsellors and senior counsellors have been cut in 2013?

**ANSWER**

As at 30 June 2013, there has been a reduction of 1 counsellor position.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 121

How many NSW TAFE administrative staff positions that support frontline teachers have been cut in 2013?

**ANSWER**

In 2013, as at 30 June, class support positions have been reduced by 22.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**



**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No.122

Have the NSW TAFE Commission and affected TAFE Institutes undertaken risk assessments around workload issues for remaining frontline teachers associated with these cuts?

**ANSWER**

The NSW TAFE Commission and TAFE Institutes apply the Department of Education and Communities' Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Risk Management Policy during change initiation processes.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 123

Have these ongoing NSW TAFE cuts to frontline teaching jobs and support services led to student class size increases?

**ANSWER**

No.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 124

How many NSW TAFE Institute Managers have been cut and offered voluntary redundancy in 2013?

**ANSWER**

As at 30 June 2013, Institute Manager positions have been reduced by 6 and the affected officers have been offered voluntary redundancy.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No.125

How many NSW TAFE Institute Managers accepted a voluntary redundancy in 2013?

**ANSWER**

As at 30 June 2013, 6 Institute Managers had accepted a voluntary redundancy.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 126

How much has implementation of Learning Management Business Reform in TAFE NSW cost the NSW taxpayer so far cumulatively?

**ANSWER**

As at 30 June 2013, the TAFE proportion of the capital budget has been approximately \$35.6m.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Adrian Piccoli', is written over the printed name and title.

**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 127

Why has there been a 32% decrease in funding for English language courses over the last 12 months at The Hills College of TAFE?

**ANSWER**

There has not been a 32% reduction in funding for English language courses at The Hills College over the last twelve months.

In July 2012 \$314,017.00 was allocated for Semester 2, 2012 English language courses compared with \$349,372.00 which has been allocated for English language courses in Semester 2, 2013.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

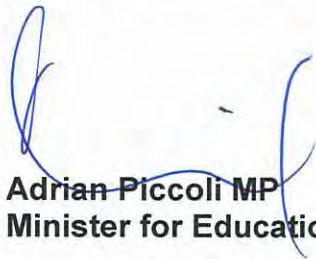
**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 128

General Manager of TAFE NSW, Pam Christie, stated at the DEC Budget briefing that TAFE funding cutbacks of 0.6% had been offset by changes in depreciation of TAFE assets. How have changes in depreciation of TAFE assets affected the TAFE budget allocation?

**ANSWER**

The 2013/14 TAFE expenditure budget included \$124m for depreciation expense. This is an increase of \$7m (or 5.98 per cent) from the 2012/13 revised budget.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 129

The budget for Vocational Education and Training is increasing by 65.8% on the 2012/13 revised figures whereas TAFE funding is being cut by 0.6%. Why is there such a huge difference in funding increases for TAFE and VET?

**ANSWER**

The VET Service Group budget includes funding received under a number of Commonwealth National Partnership Agreements. The 65.8% (\$177.6 million) budget increase for 2013/14 is driven mainly by additional funding through the National Partnership Agreement on Skills Reform.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**



**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 130

How much of the TAFE capital program is funded by the Commonwealth Investment Fund?

**ANSWER**

The budget for the TAFE NSW capital program specified in the 2013-14 Budget does not include funding from the Commonwealth Investment Fund.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Adrian Piccoli', is written over the printed name and title.

**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 131

How is the government spending the Commonwealth funding allocated for Early Childhood Education?

**ANSWER**

A key focus for expenditure in 2013/14 is the implementation of the recommendations of the Brennan Review into early childhood education funding.

This will involve new funding arrangements and the delivery of targeted projects to support the achievement of the universal access target – that 95% of children in their year before school have access to a quality early childhood education program.

In 2014 we will implement a new, fairer funding model for community preschools that is better targeted to children in the year before they start school and better supports our neediest children.

All unspent Commonwealth funding received under the previous National Partnership Agreement has been rolled forward into 2013/14 and will be invested in the new community preschool funding model and related National Partnership projects.

Funding received in 2011/12 and 2012/13 has been directed to a range of initiatives worth up to \$30 million to support the achievement of the State's National Partnership commitments. Commonwealth funding received in 2012/13 also supported the \$20 million fee reduction initiative that was rolled out to preschools in May this year and \$5 million capital funding to increase preschool places in rural and remote communities.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 132

What is the government doing to support the roll out of the requirements of the Federal Agreement on Early Childhood Education such as appropriate ratios of qualified Early Childhood Education teachers to students, so that NSW families are not forced to foot the bill?

**ANSWER**

New South Wales has for many years required services with 30 or more children to have an early childhood teacher in attendance, and this requirement was retained in the National Quality Framework because of its importance to children's early learning.

While primary responsibility for supporting families with the costs of childcare sits with the Commonwealth, through its Child Care Benefit and Child Care Rebate schemes, the State is helping to support the sector adapt to the new regulatory requirements of the National Quality Framework.

In 2011 and 2012, the NSW Government committed approximately \$9.6 million to the New Skills: Quality Care program which provides subsidised education, training and assessment services to early childhood workers to attain or upgrade formal qualifications. The program includes a tool for recognising prior learning, professional development workshops for employers, employees and registered training organisations, and funding for full Certificate III and Diploma courses in Children's Services.

The Early Childhood Teaching Scholarships program will also provide up to 100 scholarships of up to \$10,000 to eligible educators, to assist with the costs of their study. The Department of Education and Communities has also written to all qualified teachers on the waiting list for appointment to the Department to advise them of the career opportunities in the early childhood sector.

The Council of Australian Governments will be conducting a review of the National Quality Framework in 2014, which will provide an opportunity to refine implementation of this initiative. The State is also participating in the Commonwealth's 2013 Early Childhood Education and Care Workforce Review, which is assessing the progress of the sector towards meeting the qualifications requirements of the National Quality Framework.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 133

What is the government doing to address the fact that NSW is the only state with a decrease in preschool participation levels, which are the second lowest in the country, yet has the highest preschool fees nationwide?

**ANSWER**

The most accurate measure of the preschool participation rate in New South Wales is the Annual Report on the Early Childhood Education National Partnership. The 2011 report, which has been endorsed by the Commonwealth, shows a steady increase – not a decrease – in the State's participation rate since 2009. The 2012 report, when published, will show this trend continuing.

In March 2013 the Government announced a range of measures to address two important barriers to preschool participation: affordability for families and the physical supply of places in regional areas. The \$20 million Preschool Fee Reduction Initiative was distributed to eligible services in May 2013, to provide an immediate reduction in preschool fees for four and five year old children. It is estimated that current average fees will be reduced by around 26% as a result of this additional funding.

A \$5 million capital funding initiative will support the creation of new preschool places in targeted areas of regional and rural New South Wales where the level of need is high. The application process for this initiative commenced in July 2013.

Following the review of the current early childhood funding system by Professor Deborah Brennan, the Government will introduce a new funding model that will be designed to further increase preschool participation for children in the year before school from 2014.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

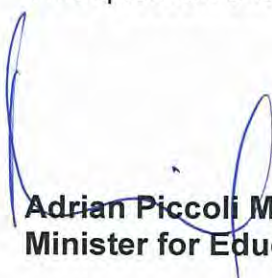
**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 134

The Budget Papers note that the measures to fund National Education Reform Agreement are greater than NSW's funding commitment (Budget paper 2, 1-17); by how much do they exceed NSW's funding commitment?

**ANSWER**

This question should be directed to the Treasurer.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**


BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 135

Given that the Budget Estimates 2012-13(3-1) reported the percentage variation on recurrent and capital expenditure was the difference between what the government had allocation in the previous budget with what was being allocated in the budget being announced and the Budget Estimates 2013-14(3-1) reported on the percentage variation between the revised budget 2012-13 and the allocated budget 2013-14, why isn't there consistency from year to year in the manner of presenting recurrent and capital expenditure percentage variations?

- a. Is this to prevent accurate comparisons between budgets?

**ANSWER**

Questions about the formatting and content of Budget papers should be directed to the Treasurer.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

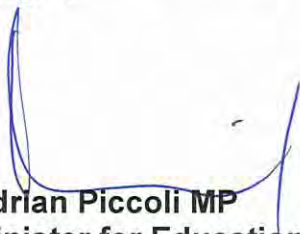
**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 136

How do the Budget Papers account for compliance by the DEC in delivering the government's "efficiency dividends" and "labour expense cap"?

**ANSWER**

The Department of Education and Communities' 2013/14 budget includes efficiency dividends and labour expense caps. The Department is required to stay within its budget.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Adrian Piccoli', is written over the printed name and title.

**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**  
**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

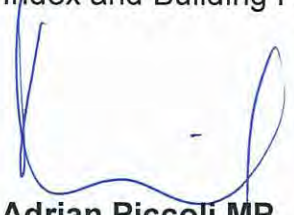
**QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 137

Taking into account inflations, what are the real increases/decreases in recurrent and capital expenditure funding over what was allocated in last year's budget and over last year's revised budget?

**ANSWER**

The budget allocations are impacted by a number of items, including enrolment changes, the timing of State and Commonwealth funded initiatives, efficiency dividends, wages policy and other escalation factors, such as the Consumer Price Index and Building Price Index.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**



**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 138

Can the Minister outline the enhanced system for auditing and oversight of school Principal decision making to ensure an appropriate use of State funds after the implementation of Local Schools Local Decisions?

**ANSWER**

The enhanced system will integrate existing human resources and financial reporting systems. Integrated validation protocols will enable financial reporting for audit purposes.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 139

Can the Minister identify the intervention point for a school that is failing to adhere to their budgeting constraints?

**ANSWER**

School bank balances are monitored monthly. Schools with low general purposes funds are identified. Contact is made with the school and the school's financial position is reviewed.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 140

Why were the budget allocations for both primary and secondary public schools underspent last year while the budget allocation for non-government schools was exceeded by \$16 million?

- a. How was this additional \$16 million spent?

**ANSWER**

The variation in the 2012/13 Revised and 2012/13 Budget for Primary and Secondary Education Services in Government Schools was mainly the result of changes in the timing of Commonwealth National Partnerships funding and a number of one-off adjustments to employee related on-costs, insurance and depreciation.

The variation in the 2012/13 Revised and 2012/13 Budget for Non-Government Schools was primarily the result of changes in enrolments.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 141

How much has the DEC underspent its public primary and secondary school budget over the last financial year?

- a. Where did these savings come from?

**ANSWER**

As the Department of Education and Communities' financial results for 2012/13 are currently subject to audit review, it is not possible to provide a response to this question at this time.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 142

Given the Budget Estimates (3-8) forecasts that:

- a. Government primary education will have 135 FTE fewer employees next financial year despite a forecast enrolment increase of 7,359 students, a 1.7 per cent enrolment increase,
- b. Government funding of primary education will increase by 3.4 per cent on the revised budget but will be only 1 per cent more than last year's budget allocation,
- c. Government secondary education will have 315 fewer employees despite a forecast enrolment increase of 941 students representing a 0.3 per cent increase,
- d. Government funding of secondary schools will increase by 1.8 per cent on the revised budget but will suffer a 0.4 per cent cut on last year's budget allocation,
- e. Why is funding not keeping pace with enrolment increase?

**ANSWER**

Enrolment is not the only determinant in decision making for budget allocations. Each year's budget may also be adjusted for anticipated changes in employee related expenses with reference to wages policy, changes in Commonwealth government funding programs, efficiency dividends, and the impact of CPI changes on other operating expenses.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION - QON No. 143

Given current overcrowding, enrolment increases and ageing school building and technology infrastructure, how is the DEC planning to respond to the underinvestment in capital works identified by the Review of Funding into Schooling (Gonski Review)?

**ANSWER**

An additional \$100 million over four years for capital works in government schools was announced in the 2013/14 State budget.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 144

Budget Estimates (3-5) states that \$320 million will be spent on school maintenance in the current financial year, "a 23 per cent increase over three years", what is the increase on what was allocated in last year's budget and the revised budget?

**ANSWER**

For information on the 2012/13 school maintenance budget, please refer to the 2012/13 Budget Paper No. 3.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Adrian Piccoli', is written over the printed name and title.

**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 145

The two preceding Budgets have called for \$1.7 billion in savings from the public education budget over the term of the government. In his 2013 Budget Speech, Treasurer Mike Baird states in regard to the funding of the National Education Reform Agreement that the Government had "made tough decisions in order to release an additional \$1.76 billion over the next 6 years". Are the earlier announced savings offsetting the costs of the National Education Reform Agreement?

**ANSWER**

No.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Adrian Piccoli', is written over the printed name and title.

**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**



## MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

### QUESTION ON NOTICE

#### QUESTION

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 146

Given the O'Farrell government's pursuit of 1.2% labour expense cap coupled with the impact of the Local Schools, Local Decisions push, will the Minister ensure that the current direct support provided to their children and their teachers by School Administrative and Support staff will be quarantined from the labour expense cap?

#### ANSWER

Within the Department of Education and Communities, only teachers in schools are exempt from a labour expense cap. The only cuts to School Administrative and Support staff are the 400 determined by the previous Government.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 147

The current training and support provided by the Department to School Administrative and Support Staff is provided on a Departmental regional basis. The Department has condensed these regions and reduced the head office support to this valuable program. Will the Department continue to commit to providing the funding and support to the School Administrative and Support Staff program at the current levels of both funding and organisational support given the value this program has to be professionalism of School Administrative and Support Staff within the current context of significant change?

**ANSWER**

Individual support will continue to be provided at the school level, as well as schools working collaboratively to provide more strategic and targeted professional learning for School Administrative and Support Staff.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 148

In his budget speech, Treasurer Mike Baird stated that an additional 500 school teachers had been hired,

- a. Under what arrangements have these teachers been employed?
- b. Where have these teachers been deployed?

**ANSWER**

The Public Service Commission in 2012 reported that total FTE school teachers had increased by around 500 since 2011.

Teachers are employed under the Crown Employees (Teachers in Schools and Related Employees) Salaries and Conditions Award across schools in NSW.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 149

Why does a primary school of 500 students receive no executive release while a high school of the same size receives eleven days of executive release per week?

**ANSWER**

Primary schools with enrolments of 505 students or more receive 1.0 full time equivalent executive release which school principals have the discretion to allocate to executive staff on the basis of school needs.

The Department of Education and Communities is continuing to consider models of executive release in primary schools.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 150

What funding has been set aside in the budget to allow Primary School Executives to have the same opportunity as their secondary colleagues to provide quality educational leadership?

**ANSWER**

All school executive staff provide quality educational leadership.

Under Local Schools Local Decisions, schools will have more flexibility to meet student and staff needs within their budget, including the provision of school specific quality educational leadership.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 151

Local Schools Local Decisions depends heavily on principals making strategic decisions using the new Learning Management Business Reform solution (LMBR). What funding has been allocated to ensure sufficient support in the field for the initial 229 schools as the program finally gets closer?

- a. Is there sufficient funding and staff to provide support for the 2000 remaining schools as they undergo preparation and implementation of this program in 2014?

**ANSWER**

Yes.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 152

Can the State Government confirm the site for the proposed additional school on the North Shore?

**ANSWER**

The Department of Education and Communities is currently working with local land owners to confirm the site for the new primary school on the Lower North Shore.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 153

Given the large number of Public Schools within growing population areas, who are experiencing overcrowding and larger than sustainable enrolment numbers, (as witnessed in the North Shore of Sydney) what long term commitment has the government placed on ensuring the quality of learning environments for our children?

**ANSWER**

The Department of Education and Communities monitors demographic trends and plans ahead for future needs by consulting extensively with the Department of Planning and Infrastructure, councils, and developers.

In the 2013/14 State Budget, the Government announced an additional \$100 million over four years for capital works in government schools. This will enable the commencement of more capital projects in government schools in the future than has been undertaken in previous years.

The 2013/14 State Budget announced funding for five new schools at Spring Farm (primary school), The Ponds (primary school), Strathfield (primary school), Crows Nest (high school) and in Sydney's Lower North Shore (primary school) to meet enrolment growth in these areas.

In addition, funding was also provided for the ongoing construction of seven new schools at Bass Hill (school for specific purposes), Canada Bay (primary school), Oran Park (primary school), The Ponds (high school and school for specific purposes), Lake Cathie (primary school), and Wentworth Point (primary school).

Major new building projects will also commence in schools in 2013/14. These projects will improve facilities in schools in Northern Sydney, West Tamworth, Yeoval and Rutherford.

The Department also uses demountable buildings in schools to manage changing enrolment patterns.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**



**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 154

Given the data from the Auditor General regarding the raised school leaving age and the significant gaps in student engagement the data highlights, what will the Government do to ensure better outcomes for students?

**ANSWER**

A Steering Committee has been set up to progress the recommendations of the Auditor General's Performance Audit.

As well, TAFE NSW Institutes are partnering with schools and other agencies to target young people who would benefit from learning basic skills in a practical, vocational environment.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 155

Has there been a review to identify if the legislative changes have been successful in engagement or if it is merely holding children in schools longer?

**ANSWER**

A Steering Committee has been set up to progress the recommendation of the Auditor General's Performance Audit.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Adrian Piccoli', is written over the printed name and title.

**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 - EDUCATION – QON No. 156

What opportunities are going to be made for government schools to reduce the ever increasing utility expenses for operating? Are there grants, concessions or any such programs in the works?

**ANSWER**

The Department of Education and Communities is developing a new Thermal Comfort and Resource Efficiency Framework. Under this framework a range of passive design solutions, such as roof insulation and sun shades are being trialled in a range of school building types for different climate zones across the state. The framework is expected to provide a more sustainable and cost effective approach to improving thermal comfort in learning spaces.

All NSW government schools are provided with annual global funding allocations to meet the cost of school operations. Any school facing a shortfall has applied to the Department for supplementation.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 - EDUCATION – QON No. 157

How is state government funding for non-government schools currently calculated?

- a. Please provide details on the calculation and the value of the 'average cost of educating a child in a public school' as specified in section 21 of the Education Act.
- b. Please explain how schools that have been recently formed are given an Education Resource index categorisation that is consistent with those that were categorised before 2000.

**ANSWER**

- a. I refer you to subsections (2) to (5) of section 21 of the *Education Act 1990*.
- b. Schools that have been recently formed are assessed for categorisation by comparing their school fee structure with the Average Government School Recurrent Costs (AGSRC) index.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**Disclosure of the membership of school boards – non-government schools**

**QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – QON NO 158 - EDUCATION – Disclosure of membership of School Boards – Non-government Schools

Are non-government schools required to disclose the membership of their school boards?

a. If not, why not?

**ANSWER**


In NSW, the *Education Act 1990* ('the Act') determines the requirements to be met by registered non-government schools.

The Act requires that the proprietor of a non-government school be a corporation or other form of legal entity approved by the Minister.

The proprietor of a non-government school is responsible for the particular governance structures in place at the school and for decisions relating to the day-to-day management and operation of the school.

The Act does not require that a non-government school have a school board or, if it has a school board, that the names of members of the school board be publicly disclosed. These matters are for the proprietor of the non-government school to determine.

In addition to complying with the requirements of the Act for registration, the proprietor of a non-government school is subject to other legislative obligations imposed on it as a legal entity.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Adrian Piccoli', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION****BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 159**

The New South Wales Government and Minister Piccoli have made a strong commitment to consult with educational stakeholder groups to address the issues and concerns surrounding education in rural and remote areas of New South Wales.

- a. Is this consultation currently under way?
- b. Given that many of the issues surrounding rural and remote education are significant and far-reaching, what funding has been allocated within the budget to address the needs and current short-comings of educational provision for rural and remote school students as identified in this consultation process?

**ANSWER**

- a. Yes
- b. Funding will be determined following the outcome of the consultation.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 160

Is there any opportunity to persuade the Federal Government that P&C Associations, currently recognised charitable status holders, become eligible for tax deductible status for donations in line with the eligibility of non- government and ethics groups?

**ANSWER**

Questions regarding deductible gift recipient (DGR) status under the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997* should be referred to the Commonwealth Government.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Adrian Piccoli', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 161

Is there scope within education policy to mandate student physical activity, rather than allow it as an option to participate in organised sport or PDHPE?

**ANSWER**

The Curriculum Planning and Programming, Assessing and Reporting to Parents K-12 (Policy Standards) and the Sport and Physical Activity Safety Policy for Schools require schools to include two hours per week for planned physical activity, including in Years 3-6, a minimum of one hour for sport. 80-120 minutes per week is also required for students in Years 7-11, and for students in Year 12 if they wish to participate.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**



**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 162

How much funding does the NSW government provide for the operation of Confucius Institute classrooms in NSW schools?

- a. What is the breakdown of the funding?

**ANSWER**

The NSW Department of Education and Communities provides funding for two positions: International Partnership Advisor – China Strategy (Senior Education Officer 2) and Confucius Institute Officer (Senior Education Officer 1).



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 163

How many Confucius Institute classrooms are currently operating in NSW?

- a. Please provide a list of schools that currently operate a Confucius classroom.

**ANSWER**

There are currently seven Confucius Classrooms operating under the NSW Department of Education and Communities Confucius Institute.

- a. They are located at:
  - Chatswood Public School
  - Kensington Public School
  - Coffs Harbour High School
  - Fort Street High School
  - Kingsgrove North High School
  - Mosman High School
  - Rooty Hill High School



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 164

Does the Department have any control over the syllabus taught in Confucius Institute classrooms?

**ANSWER**

Teaching and learning in the Confucius Institute classrooms follows the NSW Board of Studies Chinese K-10 syllabus.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 165

Does the Department have ultimate control over the syllabus taught in Confucius Institute classrooms?

**ANSWER**

Teaching and learning in the Confucius Institute classrooms follows the NSW Board of Studies Chinese K-10 syllabus.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Adrian Piccoli', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 166

What funding has the government allocated to achieve the goals outlined in the Great Teaching, Inspired Learning blueprint document?

- a. If no funding has been allocated, how does the Minister expect to achieve these admirable but extensive goals given current funding is already stretched and Principals are being forced to find savings and operate within a restricted budget?

**ANSWER**

Education, training and early childhood education received a record \$13.95 billion in the 2013-14 NSW Budget.

The 2013-14 Budget included funding for the National Education Reform Agreement (NERA). The agreement will deliver an additional \$5 billion to NSW schools over six years.

These additional funds will enable NSW to implement already announced reforms, including Great Teaching, Inspired Learning.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 167

Given that children in NSW public schools are being provided with email accounts linked to Google Gmail system and that the DEC manages Google cloud and Google server services for NSW public schools, what is the department doing to protect the privacy of NSW school children in light of the revelations that PRISM and the US Government is collecting all data directly from Google servers for storage and potential future use?

- a. Is the Minister satisfied that statutory obligations to protect student privacy and information are being met in light of these revelations?

**ANSWER**

The Department of Education and Communities entered into an agreement to use Gmail for student email in 2008.

As part of the Terms of Service, Google will only use identifying information where it is legally obliged to do so, a principle that applies to all internet service providers.

Otherwise it only records aggregated, non-personal data, and there has been no suggestion of misuse since the service began.

Students log on to Gmail through the Department portal, supplying no more information than a user ID.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 168

During the election campaign, the Coalition promised 900 additional teachers for public and private schools for its Literacy and Numeracy Action Plan. Please provide an update on the implementation of the plan and how the 900 positions are being provided?

**ANSWER**

Taking action and delivering critical support to where it is needed most is at the heart of the Government's \$261 million five year Literacy and Numeracy Action Plan.

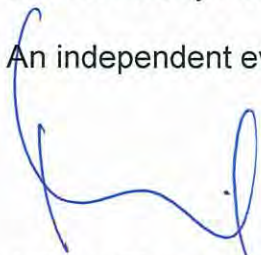
Our plan of action, based on the key recommendations of the Ministerial Advisory Group on Literacy and Numeracy, is providing an evidenced-based prescription for improvement.

Over 200 Government, Catholic and independent schools, whose Year 3 results indicate they are in the bottom quarter of performance in literacy and numeracy, have been targeted by the education sectors to receive support under the Government's Action Plan.

The Government's pre-election Action Plan commitment is being met with the progressive allocation of resources over five years.

Resourcing equivalent to 300 full-time teachers has been provided in the first two years of the Action Plan to targeted Government, Catholic and independent schools to address the needs of students at risk in literacy and numeracy in Kindergarten to Year 2. From the allocation provided to the Department of Education and Communities, The Exodus Foundation has also received funding to enable literacy and numeracy intervention support to be provided to some 160 students.

An independent evaluation of our Action Plan has also commenced.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 169

Why is the Department training School Administration Manager in performing cash flow budgeting through Learning Management Business Reform when they have repeatedly stated that it will not be School Administration Managers who will be performing this function and are refusing to pay them for performing this function?

**ANSWER**

I refer you to page 40 of the Transcript.

Principals are accountable for managing their school and have the autonomy to do so in the way that best meets the needs of their school.

Whether the principal performs the cash flow budgeting or the school administrative manager does is therefore a matter for the principal to determine

The Learning Management Business Reform Program will provide schools, including school administrative managers, with sufficient training to enable them to operate in the new environment.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**



**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 170

Will the Department commit to adequate funding to ensure appropriate training and staff relief to all remaining schools during the transition process given the significant one off additional workload required to successfully implement the Department's LMBR strategy?

**ANSWER**

Yes.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 171

Will the Department commit to the ongoing funding of training for School Administrative Support Staff through the current regional SASS reference groups?

**ANSWER**

Budgets for 2014 are yet to be determined.

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**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

## MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

### QUESTION ON NOTICE

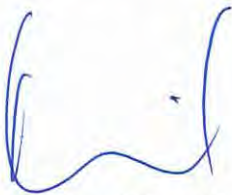
#### QUESTION

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 172

What overall budgetary allocation has been made to ensure that the Department's NSW WHS Act 2011 officers are discharging their due diligence duties?

#### ANSWER

There is no specific budget allocation as the Department exercises due diligence responsibilities through day to day operational processes and through designed programs.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

## MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

### QUESTION ON NOTICE

#### QUESTION

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 173

What specific budgetary allocation has been made to ensure compliance with the Department's duties relating to:

- a. Ensuring that HSRS receive their entitlement to training, including the 5 day WorkCover accredited HSR training course
- b. That workers receive training and instruction about Work Health and Safety and
- c. That the Department consult with workers and their representatives?

#### ANSWER

a. – c.

The Department ensures compliance with duties detailed in the Work Health and Safety Act. Compliance includes providing training and consultation. Appropriate resources are made available to ensure compliance.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**


**QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 174

Has the Department given its list of HSRS to the WHS Act Regulator, WorkCover?

**ANSWER**

The Department is in the process of finalising the new procedures for work health and safety consultation. The Department has included in its procedures the process for providing the list of HSR's to WorkCover in accordance with the Act.

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**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 175

On what basis does it update WorkCover of HSR formation?

**ANSWER**

In accordance with the requirements under the Act, the Department will provide a list of elected HSRs on a regular basis.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

## **MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

### **QUESTION ON NOTICE**

#### **QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 176

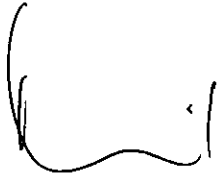
What are the administrative and budgetary arrangements to fund and keep records of;

- a. Work group formation,
- b. HSR elections,
- c. HSR training?

#### **ANSWER**

The Department has appropriate administrative arrangements to keep required records.

The cost of administration and record keeping in relation to work group formation, HSR elections and HSR training will be met through current budget allocations.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**QUESTION**

**BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 177**

What budgetary allocation was made to ensure compliance with the Department's duties relating to transitioning:

- a. OHS Act work groups to WHS Act work groups,
- b. OHS Act policy or procedure to WHS Act policy or procedure,
- c. OHS Act workplace health and safety management plans to WHS Act safety management plans,
- d. OHS Act asbestos registers, OHS Act asbestos management plans and OHS Act asbestos removal plans to WHS Act compliant documents?

**ANSWER**

These changes are being managed within existing budget allocations.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**



## MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

### QUESTION ON NOTICE

#### QUESTION

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 178

What budgetary allocation has been made to ensure compliance, with the Department's duties relating to identifying and health monitoring its workers, whom are at risk of asbestos exposure in the carrying out of asbestos-related work?

#### ANSWER

The Department does not allow staff to undertake any asbestos-related work in its facilities. Where such work is required this must be undertaken by appropriately trained contractors with the involvement of public works.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

## MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

### QUESTION ON NOTICE

#### QUESTION

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 179

Can the Department supply its WHS Act due diligence safety impact statements related to the major reform programmes;

- a. Learning Management Business Reform,
- b. Local Schools Local Decisions,
- c. Announced and planned job cuts for the current budgetary period?

#### ANSWER

In 2012 and 2013, the Department provided due diligence training in relation to the *Work Health and Safety Act 2011* to ensure that individuals in senior leadership positions of the Department have a sound and thorough understanding of their roles and responsibilities.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

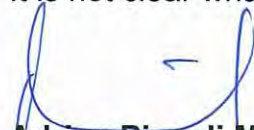
**QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 180

What is the DEC as a PCBU, planning and currently implementing, as a result of their WHS Act due diligence on the three major reform programmes?

**ANSWER**

It is not clear what “three major reform programmes” QON No. 180 refers to.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Adrian Piccoli', with a small blue arrow pointing to the right.

**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

## MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

### QUESTION ON NOTICE

#### QUESTION

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 181

What due diligence legal advice has the Department taken on whether school principals will become WHS Act officers with the implementation of the LMBR and LSLD programmes?

#### ANSWER

The Department has considered legal advice on the provisions of the *Work Health and Safety Act 2011* with respect to the definition and responsibilities of officers.

  
**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 182

If this advice apprehends that the WHS Act officer duties will accrue to principals, what budgetary plans have been made to implement this change?

**ANSWER**

See answer to QON No 181.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Adrian Piccoli', with a small mark resembling a less-than sign (<) in the center.

**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

## MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

### QUESTION ON NOTICE

#### QUESTION

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 183

How have the 229 pilot schools been involved in the officers LMBR LSLD pilot due diligence processes?

#### ANSWER

The Department adopts a risk based approach to the implementation of its key strategic programs and initiatives. This includes senior leadership positions considering the safety implications of implementing these significant reform programs and taking the necessary action to ensure that the Department complies with its legal obligations under the Act.

Due diligence is exercised by the Department in a variety of ways which include:

- The Department has a range of systems, policies and procedures in place to ensure appropriate decision making across the business in accordance with legislative and regulatory obligations.
- The Department's Audit Directorate is involved in many of the working parties and steering committees which make decisions.
- Governance is established through working groups and steering committees which have relevant senior staff and operational stakeholders as representatives to ensure risks are identified and strategies adopted to support appropriate decisions.
- Employee representative groups are invited to participate in working parties and focus groups on major programs or changes that are being considered across the Department to ensure they have an opportunity to contribute to the process.
- The Department has in place a variety of formal and informal processes where staff or other stakeholders can raise issues or concerns where they feel appropriate.

The 229 schools participating in the LMBR LSLD pilot have been represented through a range of these processes.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

## MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

### QUESTION ON NOTICE

#### QUESTION

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 184

What other WHS Act due diligence considerations are currently underway in the Department?

#### ANSWER

In accordance with the requirements of the *Work Health and Safety Act 2011*, the Department has a broad range of strategies and resources in place to provide a safe working and learning environment.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Adrian Piccoli', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

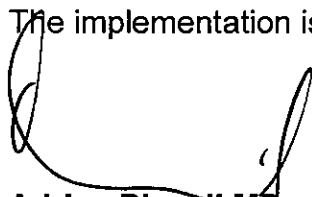
**QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 185

What budgetary allocation has been made to ensure that the Department is implementing its role in respect to the WHS Strategy, both as a PCBU with its workers and in respect to Departmental procurement policy?

**ANSWER**

The implementation is being managed within existing budget allocations.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Adrian Piccoli', written over a horizontal line.

**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**



**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION  
QUESTION ON NOTICE**

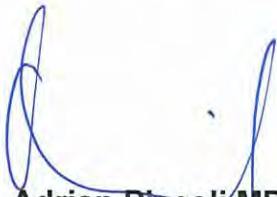
**QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 186

What budgeted activities and programmes is the Department proposing or currently undertaking in respect to the WHS strategy?

**ANSWER**

It is unclear what 'WHS Strategy' the question is referring to.



**Adrian Piccoli MP  
Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

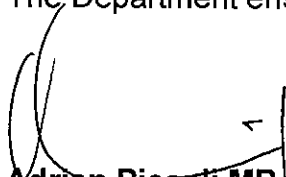
**QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 187

Can the Department supply its WHS Act due diligence safety impact statements related to the implementation of the WHS Strategy?

**ANSWER**

The Department ensures compliance with duties in the Work, Health and Safety Act.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Adrian Piccoli', written over a horizontal line.

**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION****BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 188**

In the 2012-13 budget papers, the percentage variation is calculated from budget allocation to budget allocation, while in the 2013-14 budget papers, it is revised to allocated.

- a. Why was this change made?
- b. Given that, compared to the 2012-13 approach, the 2013-14 it understates the increase to non-government schools and overstates it to government schools, will the Minister undertake to provide fairer estimates of variations in future years?

**ANSWER**

Questions about the formatting and content of Budget papers should be directed to the Treasurer.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 189

Have negotiations on schedule A to National Education Reform Agreement been stalled while the Rudd government is in caretaker mode?

- a. When does the Minister expect that they will be concluded?
- b. When they are concluded, will the Schedule be made public?

**ANSWER**

- a. Schedule A to the National Education Reform Agreement has been concluded.
- b. Yes.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 190

Given that Schedule A of the National Education Reform Agreement is yet to be concluded, has the Minister conducted preliminary discussions with the Federal Liberal National Party education spokesperson?

- a. If so, please provide details.

**ANSWER**

Schedule A to the National Education Reform Agreement has been concluded.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 191

Please provide a breakdown of expenses between state government funding, Commonwealth government funding, fees charges and other student contributions for each of 2012-13 budget and revised and the 2013-14 budget for total expenses each of the following service groups:

- a. Primary education services in government schools
- b. Secondary education services in government schools
- c. Non-government schools
- d. TAFE NSW
- e. Vocational Education and Training

**ANSWER**

A breakdown of funding sources for schools is provided in the *My School Finance* data that is published by Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) on a calendar year basis.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 192

Please provide a breakdown in the split of funding within the Vocational Education and Training service group between TAFE and private providers.

**ANSWER**

The Vocational Education and Training service group covers demand based funding and purchasing of training. As such a split in funding cannot be determined for this financial year.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION****QUESTION ON NOTICE****QUESTION**

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 193

In the ramp-up of the National Education Reform Agreement funding, will funding to schools under National Partnerships be guaranteed until the loadings (clause 58(c) of the National Education Reform Agreement) are fully implemented and paid?

**ANSWER**

Schools that were to receive funding under the Low Socio-economic Status School National Partnership in 2014 and 2015 will continue to receive that funding.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**



## MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

### QUESTION ON NOTICE

#### QUESTION

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013 – EDUCATION – QON No. 194

*194. Can the Minister please describe the current restriction on non-government schools teaching Creationism or Intelligent Design as science?*

#### ANSWER

All schools must deliver study programs that comply with the requirements of Board of Studies syllabuses. No Board of Studies syllabuses, including the Science syllabuses, contain outcomes or content relating to 'creationism' and 'intelligent design'.

For schools accredited to present candidates for the award of the Record of Student Achievement and/or the Higher School Certificate, courses offered must also satisfy the prescribed hours. Beyond the prescribed study hours, schools have the discretion to offer courses or study beyond the Board's curriculum, including, for example, religious studies, sport and student welfare.

If individual schools choose to teach material outside the Board's prescribed curriculum, it must be clear to students that this material is additional to and not part of the relevant Board syllabus. 'Creationism' and 'intelligent design' are not to be set as part of school-based assessment that contributes to students' achievement in Year 10, Preliminary courses in Year 11 and the Higher School Certificate.

The curriculum requirements for a school that is not accredited (ie, registered only or exempt from registration) relate to courses based on and taught in accordance with the outcomes of the Board's syllabuses. This provides schools with the flexibility to select syllabus content to be taught and the degree of emphasis to be given to aspects of selected content.



**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**

**MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

**SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTIONS - GENERAL**

1. On how many occasions have you met with a lobbyist, and what were the dates of these meetings?

**ANSWER**

Meetings with lobbyists are in accordance with the NSW Lobbyist Code of Conduct.

2. Which lobbyists have you met with, and what was discussed?

**ANSWER**

Meetings with lobbyists are in accordance with the NSW Lobbyist Code of Conduct.

3. On how many occasions have you declined to meet with a lobbyist?

**ANSWER**

Meetings with lobbyists are in accordance with the NSW Lobbyist Code of Conduct.

4. To deliver greater transparency and accountability, will you publish a monthly online diary of all meetings with lobbyists?

**ANSWER**

Meetings with lobbyists are in accordance with the NSW Lobbyist Code of Conduct.

5. In order to deliver greater transparency and accountability, as promised by the Premier, will you commit to keeping a record of all lobbying activities and documentation and allow them to be subject to the Government Information (Public Access) Act?

**ANSWER**

Meetings with lobbyists are in accordance with the NSW Lobbyist Code of Conduct.

6. Since becoming a Minister, have you taken any interstate or intrastate trips involving overnight accommodation or flights?

**ANSWER**

Yes

7. Will you provide a list to the committee of the details of all travel?

**ANSWER**

Information regarding travel is available on the Department of Premier and Cabinet Disclosure Log at

[http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/accessing\\_dpc\\_information/dpc\\_disclosure\\_log](http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/accessing_dpc_information/dpc_disclosure_log).

Travel is in accordance with the 'Policy on Official Travel within Australia and Overseas' available at

[http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0020/156026/Official\\_Travel\\_Policy\\_within\\_Australia\\_and\\_Overseas\\_-\\_August\\_2013.pdf](http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0020/156026/Official_Travel_Policy_within_Australia_and_Overseas_-_August_2013.pdf).

8. Have you taken any trips intrastate or interstate to attend Liberal/National Party functions? What are the details of the trips including dates and costs?

**ANSWER**

Information regarding travel is available on the Department of Premier and Cabinet Disclosure Log at

[http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/accessing\\_dpc\\_information/dpc\\_disclosure\\_log](http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/accessing_dpc_information/dpc_disclosure_log).

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[http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0020/156026/Official\\_Travel\\_Policy\\_within\\_Australia\\_and\\_Overseas\\_-\\_August\\_2013.pdf](http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0020/156026/Official_Travel_Policy_within_Australia_and_Overseas_-_August_2013.pdf).

9. Have you taken any trips intrastate or interstate to attend lobbyists' functions? What are the details of the trips including dates and costs?

**ANSWER**

Information regarding travel is available on the Department of Premier and Cabinet Disclosure Log at

[http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/accessing\\_dpc\\_information/dpc\\_disclosure\\_log](http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/accessing_dpc_information/dpc_disclosure_log).

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[http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0020/156026/Official\\_Travel\\_Policy\\_within\\_Australia\\_and\\_Overseas\\_-\\_August\\_2013.pdf](http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0020/156026/Official_Travel_Policy_within_Australia_and_Overseas_-_August_2013.pdf).

10. Were these trips paid for by the taxpayer?

**ANSWER**

Information regarding travel is available on the Department of Premier and Cabinet Disclosure Log at

[http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/accessing\\_dpc\\_information/dpc\\_disclosure\\_log](http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/accessing_dpc_information/dpc_disclosure_log).

Travel is in accordance with the 'Policy on Official Travel within Australia and Overseas' available at

[http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0020/156026/Official\\_Travel\\_Policy\\_within\\_Australia\\_and\\_Overseas\\_-\\_August\\_2013.pdf](http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0020/156026/Official_Travel_Policy_within_Australia_and_Overseas_-_August_2013.pdf).

11. Were these trips booked through the government travel management system?

**ANSWER**

Information regarding travel is available on the Department of Premier and Cabinet Disclosure Log at

[http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/accessing\\_dpc\\_information/dpc\\_disclosure\\_log](http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/accessing_dpc_information/dpc_disclosure_log).

Travel is in accordance with the 'Policy on Official Travel within Australia and Overseas' available at

[http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0020/156026/Official\\_Travel\\_Policy\\_within\\_Australia\\_and\\_Overseas\\_-\\_August\\_2013.pdf](http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0020/156026/Official_Travel_Policy_within_Australia_and_Overseas_-_August_2013.pdf).

12. Since becoming a Minister, have you paid back money to the state because you booked unauthorised travel with the government travel management system?

**ANSWER:**

Information regarding reimbursement payments is available on the Department of Premier and Cabinet Disclosure Log at

[http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/accessing\\_dpc\\_information/dpc\\_disclosure\\_log](http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/accessing_dpc_information/dpc_disclosure_log).

13. How much? When did you travel? When did you pay back the money? How many occasions has this happened?

**ANSWER:**

Information regarding reimbursement payments is available on the Department of Premier and Cabinet Disclosure Log at [http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/accessing\\_dpc\\_information/dpc\\_disclosure\\_log](http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/accessing_dpc_information/dpc_disclosure_log).

14. Have you had meetings scheduled interstate or intrastate on Fridays or weekends which involved you staying overnight?

**ANSWER:**

Information regarding travel is available on the Department of Premier and Cabinet Disclosure Log at [http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/accessing\\_dpc\\_information/dpc\\_disclosure\\_log](http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/accessing_dpc_information/dpc_disclosure_log).

Travel is in accordance with the 'Policy on Official Travel within Australia and Overseas' available at [http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0020/156026/Official\\_Travel\\_Policy\\_within\\_Australia\\_and\\_Overseas\\_-\\_August\\_2013.pdf](http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0020/156026/Official_Travel_Policy_within_Australia_and_Overseas_-_August_2013.pdf).

15. Did you take your spouse/partner on these trips?

**ANSWER**

Information regarding travel is available on the Department of Premier and Cabinet Disclosure Log at [http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/accessing\\_dpc\\_information/dpc\\_disclosure\\_log](http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/accessing_dpc_information/dpc_disclosure_log).

Travel is in accordance with the 'Policy on Official Travel within Australia and Overseas' available at [http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0020/156026/Official\\_Travel\\_Policy\\_within\\_Australia\\_and\\_Overseas\\_-\\_August\\_2013.pdf](http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0020/156026/Official_Travel_Policy_within_Australia_and_Overseas_-_August_2013.pdf).

16. Have any members of your staff made complaints to or raised concerns with you, your Chief of Staff or the Department of Premier and Cabinet about bullying in your office?

**ANSWER:**

Information on Department of Premier and Cabinet Memorandum 'Dignity and Respect: Policy and Guidelines on Preventing and Managing Workplace Bullying' can be found at [http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/announcements/ministerial\\_memoranda/2007/m2007-02](http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/announcements/ministerial_memoranda/2007/m2007-02).

17. If so, have any members of your staff resigned or been removed from their position after making such a complaint or raising such concerns?

**ANSWER:**

Information on Department of Premier and Cabinet Memorandum 'Dignity and Respect: Policy and Guidelines on Preventing and Managing Workplace Bullying' can be found at [http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/announcements/ministerial\\_memoranda/2007/m2007-02](http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/announcements/ministerial_memoranda/2007/m2007-02).

18. How many blackberries or smart phones are assigned to your staff?

**ANSWER:**

169 phones have been issued to the Premier's Office and Ministers Offices.

19. For each phone, how much was each bill in the 2012/13 financial year?

**ANSWER:**

The total expenditure on all phone types by the Premier's office and Ministers' offices as represented in the department's financial system is set out in the table below. Please note that this expenditure may include mobile phone purchase costs as the financial system does not separate the purchase costs and mobile usage charges.

|              | 2007-08   | 2008-09   | 2009-10   | 2010-11   | 2011-12   | 2012-13   |
|--------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| <b>TOTAL</b> | \$483,310 | \$578,691 | \$434,854 | \$188,761 | \$197,226 | \$232,286 |

Note. 2010-11 figures are a combination of 9 months of Keneally Government and 3 months of O'Farrell Government.

20. How many have phones have been lost in your office?

**ANSWER:**

For Premier's Office and Ministers' offices, the number of phones lost was 5.

21. What is the cost of replacing those phones?

**ANSWER:**

The cost is the normal contract price and this cost is claimed through the NSW Treasury Managed Fund.

22. How many iPads or tablet computers does DPC assign to your Ministerial office and to whom have they been issued?

**ANSWER:**

The number of iPads issued for the Premier's office and Ministers' offices for 2012/13 is 75.

23. How many iPads or tablet computers have you purchased for your office and to whom have they been issued?

**ANSWER:**

iPads are supplied by DPC.

24. How many iPhones or other smart phones does DPC assign to your Ministerial office and to whom have they been issued?

**ANSWER:**

169 phones have been issued to NSW Ministerial Offices.

25. How many iPhones or other smart phones have you purchased for your office and to whom have they been issued?

**ANSWER:**

iPhones or Smart Phones are supplied by DPC.

26. How many iPhones or other smart phones have been lost in your office?

**ANSWER:**

For Premier's Office and Ministers' offices, the number of phones lost was 5.

27. How many iPads or tablet computers have been lost in your office?

**ANSWER:**

For Premier's office and Ministers' offices the number of iPads lost was 2.

28. What is the cost of replacing those phones or iPads or tablet computers?

**ANSWER:**

The cost is the normal contract price and this cost is claimed through the NSW Treasury Managed Fund.

29. How many media or public relations advisers are employed for each of your portfolio agencies?

**ANSWER:**

Ministerial staff numbers and salary bands are available on the DPC website at:  
[http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/publications/premiers\\_and\\_ministers\\_staff\\_numbers](http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/publications/premiers_and_ministers_staff_numbers).

30. What is the forecast for 2013/14 for the number of media or public relations advisers to be employed and their total cost?

**ANSWER:**

Ministerial staff numbers and salary bands are available on the DPC website at:  
[http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/publications/premiers\\_and\\_ministers\\_staff\\_numbers](http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/publications/premiers_and_ministers_staff_numbers).

31. Have any of your overseas trips in the past year been paid for in part or in full by using public money?

**ANSWER:**



Information regarding travel Information regarding Ministerial travel is available on the Minister's appropriate agency website, in accordance with Ministerial Memorandum M2009-10 "Release of Overseas Travel Information".

32. If so, did any of your relatives or friends accompany you on these trips?

**ANSWER:**

Information regarding travel Information regarding Ministerial travel is available on the Minister's appropriate agency website, in accordance with Ministerial Memorandum M2009-10 "Release of Overseas Travel Information".

33. What is the annual remuneration package for your chief of staff?

**ANSWER:**

Ministerial staff numbers and salary bands are available on the DPC website at:  
[http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/publications/premiers\\_and\\_ministers\\_staff\\_numbers](http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/publications/premiers_and_ministers_staff_numbers).

34. What is the annual remuneration package for your head media advisor?

**ANSWER:**

Ministerial staff numbers and salary bands are available on the DPC website at:  
[http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/publications/premiers\\_and\\_ministers\\_staff\\_numbers](http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/publications/premiers_and_ministers_staff_numbers).

35. What is the annual remuneration package for each of your staff?

**ANSWER:**

Ministerial staff numbers and salary bands are available on the DPC website at:  
[http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/publications/premiers\\_and\\_ministers\\_staff\\_numbers](http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/publications/premiers_and_ministers_staff_numbers).

36. What is the estimated expenditure for your office budget in 2012\_13?

**ANSWER:**

Information regarding Premier's Office and Ministerial Offices budget and expenditure is available on the Department of Premier and Cabinet Disclosure Log at [http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/accessing\\_dpc\\_information/dpc\\_disclosure\\_log](http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/accessing_dpc_information/dpc_disclosure_log).

37. Have any office renovations or fit outs been undertaken in your ministerial office since April, 2011?

**ANSWER:**

Information on the assets balances for leasehold improvements are available in the Department of Premier and Cabinet Annual Report.

38. If so, could you give details of contracted costs?

**ANSWER:**

Information on the assets balances for leasehold improvements are available in the Department of Premier and Cabinet Annual Report.

39. What is your Ministerial office budget for 2013/14?

**ANSWER:**

Information regarding Premier's Office and Ministerial Offices budget and expenditure is available on the Department of Premier and Cabinet Disclosure Log at [http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/accessing\\_dpc\\_information/dpc\\_disclosure\\_log](http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/accessing_dpc_information/dpc_disclosure_log).

40. How many political advisors are in your office?

**ANSWER:**

Ministerial staff numbers and salary bands are available on the DPC website at: [http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/publications/premiers\\_and\\_ministers\\_staff\\_numbers](http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/publications/premiers_and_ministers_staff_numbers)

41. How many administration staff?

**ANSWER:**

Ministerial staff numbers and salary bands are available on the DPC website at: [http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/publications/premiers\\_and\\_ministers\\_staff\\_numbers](http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/publications/premiers_and_ministers_staff_numbers)

42. How many Department Liaison Officers are assigned to your office?

**ANSWER:**

Number of Department Liaison Officers (DLOs) are:

|              | Number of DLOs<br>as at 5/09/2012 | Number of DLOs<br>as at 30/06/2013 |
|--------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Premier      | 1                                 | 1                                  |
| Ministers    | 57                                | 54                                 |
| <b>TOTAL</b> | <b>58</b>                         | <b>55</b>                          |

43. How many staff in the Department are assigned to Ministerial support duties?

**ANSWER:**

The Premier and Ministers are provided with road transport services with, Ministerial Drivers assigned for this purpose.

44. Are any contractors or consultants working in your ministerial office?  
a. If so, in what capacities?

**ANSWER:**

Financial statements, including expenditure on consultants, are available in agency annual reports.

45. How much did your Ministerial office spend on contractors or consultants?

**ANSWER:**

Financial statements, including expenditure on consultants, are available in agency annual reports.

46. How much did your Ministerial office spend on taxi fares, including Cabcharge in the 2012/13 financial year?

**ANSWER:**

Taxi expenditure by the Premier's office and Ministers' offices as represented in the Department's financial system is represented in the table below.

|              | <b>2008-09</b> | <b>2009-10</b> | <b>2010-11</b> | <b>2011-12</b> | <b>2012-13</b> |
|--------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>TOTAL</b> | \$160,155      | \$175,776      | \$60,277       | \$96,094       | \$92,829       |

Note. 2010-11 figures are a combination of 9 months of Keneally Government and 3 months of O'Farrell Government.

47. Are any of your portfolio agencies undergoing a restructure?

**ANSWER:**

Yes

48. How many jobs are expected to be cut as a result of that restructure?

**ANSWER:**

A realignment of state and regional offices will result in a reduction of around 600 positions by 30 June 2016.

A review of central support functions for TAFE NSW and efficiency improvements in Institutes will result in a reduction of around 800 positions by 30 June 2016.

Efficiencies from the Learning Management and Business Reform program will result in 400 school administrative and support staff and back office position reductions. This was agreed to by the previous Government and the Public Service Association to offset salary increases already paid to school administrative and support staff and clerical staff.

49. How many people are expected to have their wages cut as a result of that restructure?

**ANSWER**

None

50. How many voluntary redundancies were offered in your Departments since April 2011?

**ANSWER**

694 staff in the Education and Communities Cluster received an offer of voluntary redundancy from 1 April 2011 until 31 July 2013.

51. How many voluntary redundancies were accepted from employees in your Departments since April 2011?

**ANSWER**

536 staff in the Education and Communities Cluster accepted an offer of voluntary redundancy from 1 April 2011 until 31 July 2013.

52. How many voluntary redundancies are expected to be offered in 2013/14?

**ANSWER**

The total number of offers of voluntary redundancy in the Education and Communities Cluster for the remainder of 2013/2014 has not been determined.

53. How much did your Department(s) spend on catering in 2012/13?

**ANSWER**

Given the number of schools, colleges and other entities within the Department, this request would require an unreasonable and substantial diversion of resources in the time specified.

54. How much did your Department(s) spend on stationary in 2012/13?

**ANSWER**

Given the number of schools, colleges and other entities within the Department, this request would require an unreasonable and substantial diversion of resources in the time specified.

55. What is your Department's catering budget?

**ANSWER**

Given the number of schools, colleges and other entities within the Department, this request would require an unreasonable and substantial diversion of resources in the time specified.

56. What is your Department's stationery budget?

**ANSWER**

Given the number of schools, colleges and other entities within the Department, this request would require an unreasonable and substantial diversion of resources in the time specified.

57. Since April 2011 have any of the agencies in your Department(s) changed their branding?

**ANSWER**

Yes. In May 2011, branding was changed to reflect the agency name: NSW Department of Education and Communities.

58. If so, how much was spent on rebranding the agency?

**ANSWER**

In the 2012/13 financial year there has been no rebranding.

59. How long is the average turnaround for responding to correspondence in your Department(s)?

**ANSWER:**

The Department's recommended time frame for completing responses to correspondence from Ministers, Members of Parliament and members of the public is 20 working days from the Department's receipt of the correspondence.

However, it is not always possible to comply with this time frame for any number of reasons including: the nature and complexity of the matter; stakeholder consultation; or further information required from other Departments and sources.

60. How many pieces of correspondence have been outstanding for more than 60 days?

**ANSWER:**

The Department's recommended time frame for completing responses to correspondence from Ministers, Members of Parliament and members of the public is 20 working days from the Department's receipt of the correspondence.

However, it is not always possible to comply with this time frame for any number of reasons including: the nature and complexity of the matter; stakeholder consultation; or further information required from other Departments and sources.

61. In 2012/13 how many invoices has your Department(s) failed to pay a supplier or contractor for more than 30 days?

**ANSWER:**

Information regarding "30 days to pay" policy is available at <http://www.finance.nsw.gov.au/30days/how-government-will-report-policy>.

62. As a result of late payment, how much penalty interest has been paid to contractors since 1 January 2011?

**ANSWER:**

Information regarding "30 days to pay" policy is available at <http://www.finance.nsw.gov.au/30days/how-government-will-report-policy>.

63. How many invoices have been outstanding for longer than 60 days?

**ANSWER:**

Information regarding "30 days to pay" policy is available at <http://www.finance.nsw.gov.au/30days/how-government-will-report-policy>.

64. Does your department provide recurrent grant funds to nongovernment organisations? If yes:

- a. What are the names of all organisations in receipt of funding?
- b. What is the total amount of funding received by each organisation including goods and services tax?
- c. On what date was the funding advanced?

- d. What was the purpose for each grant or funding advance?
- e. Was any funding withheld or returned?
- f. If so, what were the reasons for withholding or requiring the funding to be returned?
- g. What is the indexation rate applied to non-recurrent grant funds in 2013/2013?
- h. What are the details of any costs involved in each study, audit, taskforce or review?
- i. Have any provisions been included in grant agreements to prohibit these organisations from criticising the Government or any of its policies?

**ANSWER**

Detail on grants provided by the Department of Education and Communities is produced in the Department's Annual Report.

65. How many contractors has your Department(s) retained since 1 July 2013 and at what cost?

**ANSWER:**

This information is not held centrally for the Department. The number of contractors fluctuates.

66. What is the current level of Aboriginal employment within your Department(s)?

**ANSWER:**

The Public Service Commission collects workforce data from the NSW public sector, including regarding levels of Aboriginal employment. An estimate of the level of Aboriginal employment in the sector at June 2013 will be included in the Workforce Profile 2013 Report, due to be released with the 2013 State of the Public Sector Report in November 2013. NSW Treasury Circular 11/03 outlines Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Disclosure Requirements, requiring that NSW public sector agencies include EEO data in their annual reports.

67. How has that changed since 1 July 2012?



**ANSWER:**

An estimate of the level of Aboriginal employment in the NSW public sector at June 2012 can be found in the Workforce Profile 2012 Report. This report is available on the PSC website on the Workforce Profile page: <http://www.psc.nsw.gov.au/About-the-Public-Sector/workforce-profile>.

68. Since 1 July 2011, how much has been spent on charter air flights by your Department(s)?

**ANSWER:**

Travel is in accordance with the 'Policy on Official Travel within Australia and Overseas' available at [http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0020/156026/Official\\_Travel\\_Policy\\_within\\_Australia\\_and\\_Overseas\\_-\\_August\\_2013.pdf](http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0020/156026/Official_Travel_Policy_within_Australia_and_Overseas_-_August_2013.pdf). Details regarding travel costs are published in the Department's Annual Report.

69. Is your department currently undertaking any feasibility studies, audits, taskforces or reviews? If so; then;

- a. What are the terms of reference or details of each study, audit, taskforce or review?
- b. Who is conducting the study, audit, taskforce or review?
- c. Was each study, audit, taskforce or review was publically advertised seeking expression of interest or competitive tenders?
- d. Is there a contract in place detailing terms of engagement for the study, audit, taskforce or review?
- e. What is the timeline of each study, audit, taskforce or review?
- f. What are the details of any costs involved in each study, audit, taskforce or review?

**ANSWER:**

As with previous NSW Governments, the Government undertakes feasibility studies, audits, taskforces and reviews to inform government decision making. A number of feasibility studies, audits, taskforces and reviews are currently being undertaken across the NSW Government.

70. Can you please list all travel related costs for your Parliamentary Secretary incurred in their capacity as Parliamentary Secretary since 1 July 2012
- a. kilometres travelled
  - b. accommodation,
  - c. air fares
  - d. meals/entertaining?

**ANSWER:**

Information regarding Premier's Office and Ministerial Offices budget and expenditure is available on the Department of Premier and Cabinet Disclosure Log at [http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/accessing\\_dpc\\_information/dpc\\_disclosure\\_log](http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/accessing_dpc_information/dpc_disclosure_log).

71. Can you please provide details of the following activities undertaken by your Parliamentary Secretary since 1 July 2012;
- a. meetings attended in their capacity as Parliamentary Secretary?
  - b. functions attended in their capacity as Parliamentary Secretary?

**ANSWER:**

Parliamentary Secretaries provide assistance to the Premier and other Ministers, including signing correspondence; receiving deputations; undertaking special tasks; officiating at functions; and relieving the Premier and Ministers of some of their duties. The duties to be performed are those allocated by the Premier and/or Minister, or which have the Premier's and/or Minister's endorsement.

72. How often do you meet with your Parliamentary Secretary?
- a. Are these meetings documented?
  - b. Who attends these meetings?

**ANSWER:**

Parliamentary Secretaries provide assistance to the Premier and other Ministers, including signing correspondence; receiving deputations; undertaking special tasks; officiating at functions; and relieving the Premier and Ministers of some of their duties. The duties to be performed are those allocated by the Premier and/or Minister, or which have the Premier's and/or Minister's endorsement.

73. Who provides instructions and direction to your Parliamentary Secretary, you or your Chief of Staff?

**ANSWER:**

Parliamentary Secretaries provide assistance to the Premier and other Ministers, including signing correspondence; receiving deputations; undertaking special tasks; officiating at functions; and relieving the Premier and Ministers of some of their duties. The duties to be performed are those allocated by the Premier and/or Minister, or which have the Premier's and/or Minister's endorsement.

74. Has the Minister been provided with Speech, Voice or Media Training since becoming Minister? If so, then;

- a. Who conducted the training?
- b. When was it conducted?
- c. Where was it conducted what were the costs of the training?
- d. Who paid for the training?

**ANSWER**

The Department of Premier and Cabinet's financial system does not show any record of speech, voice or media training for the Minister or the Parliamentary Secretary.

75. Has the Parliamentary Secretary been provided with Speech, Voice or Media Training since becoming Parliamentary Secretary? If so, then;

- a. Who conducted the training?
- b. When was it conducted?
- c. Where was it conducted what were the costs of the training?
- d. Who paid for the training?

**ANSWER:**

Parliamentary Secretaries provide assistance to the Premier and other Ministers, including signing correspondence; receiving deputations; undertaking special tasks; officiating at functions; and relieving the Premier and Ministers of some of their duties. The duties to be performed are those allocated by the Premier and/or Minister, or which have the Premier's and/or Minister's endorsement.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'A. Piccoli', written in a cursive style.

**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**