



Speech by

**Mr D. BRISKEY**

**MEMBER FOR CLEVELAND**

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Hansard 19 August 1999

**VICTORIA POINT STATE SCHOOL LITERACY PROGRAM**

**Mr BRISKEY** (Cleveland—ALP) (7.13 p.m.): It gives me great pleasure to advise the House of the wonderful work being done by teachers and teacher aides in the Redland Shire. In particular, Victoria Point State School is improving literacy results as a direct result of the extra \$17.5m for teacher aides allocated to schools by the Beattie Labor Government.

The program at Victoria Point was designed for students who fell slightly below the class average or more in reading or writing. Teacher aides were specifically trained by the learning support teacher and have implemented quality daily intervention programs to selected students for about eight weeks. The levels targeted have been Years 2 and 5. Early intervention has faster, more effective results in improving learning outcomes and is more cost effective in the long term.

The school has had outstanding results. The Year 2 results are as follows. In 1998, the number of students requiring intervention totalled 83. In 1999, that number had dropped to 45. Importantly, the number of students requiring intervention specifically with their writing had dropped to just four. The number of students requiring help with reading also dropped by about half.

**Mr Wells:** A fantastic outcome.

**Mr BRISKEY:** Thank you, Minister. While the intervention program has specifically targeted literacy strategies, the improvement in this area has contributed to the decline in students requiring intervention for number. The school is currently implementing intervention programs in Years 1 and 5 using similar criteria to select students. The principal and teachers at Victoria Point anticipate that the early intervention in Year 1 will improve learning outcomes for many more students.

I take this opportunity to congratulate the principal, Lex Bowden, the deputy principals Bruce Carothers and Meg Carpenter and all other staff at the school. It gives me great pleasure to commend the efforts of this school to the House.

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