

Question on Notice
No. 889
Asked on 19 August 2004

MR WELLS asked the Minister for Education and the Arts (Ms Bligh) -

QUESTION:

With reference to her Ministerial Statement of 18 June -
Will she advise what further steps have been taken, particularly in reference to the replacement of the ascertainment system with an improved system of assisting children who are difficult to teach?

ANSWER:

In the Ministerial Statement of 18 June 2004, I undertook to replace the current ascertainment process with a simpler, more flexible resourcing methodology from the start of the 2005 school year. To date the following steps have been undertaken:

- The Department has completed state-wide information dissemination and consultation to establish a broad-based understanding of the principles underlying the new resourcing methodology;
- Negotiations have occurred with relevant unions and other key stakeholders.
- A new instrument to collect student educational need information has been developed and is being piloted in both government and non-government schools;
- Planning for professional development that will support the new process is underway, with delivery expected to commence in mid-October 2004;
- Ten Transition Coordinator positions, located across Queensland, have been approved and were advertised in late August 2004;
- A review and restructure of the student data management system that links reports of student educational need with resources distribution commenced in August 2004; and
- A website has been established to provide information regarding the new system.

<http://education.qld.gov.au/students/disabilities/adjustment>