

Question on Notice

No. 1003

Asked on 7 June 2006

MRS JO-ANN MILLER asked the Minister for Education and Minister for the Arts (Mr Welford) —

QUESTION:

How is the Pregnant and Parent Program assisting at risk students in the Bundamba Electorate?

ANSWER:

The Education and Training Reforms for the Future (ETRF) focuses on young people at risk of disengaging from formal education. One of the funded ETRF programs focuses on young people who are pregnant/parenting.

The Pregnant and Parenting Program is based at Redbank Plains State High School in the Bundamba electorate with a Program Manager and 2 part-time Youth Workers.

Funding of \$71 000 for the program was provided in 2006 from the ETRF *Access to Pathways* grants.

Whilst the base school is located in the Bundamba area, the program services secondary schools across the Moreton Region and parts of the Greater Brisbane Region.

The program was established in 2003 and encourages and supports pregnant or parenting adolescents to remain in an educational setting of their choice to complete their education as well as assisting pregnant or parenting adolescents who have left school to reengage in the education system.

Since 2004, 78 students from 18 schools have been supported by the program in a number of high schools in the Bundamba Electorate.

Thirty-eight of these students are still engaged in education or training, including six at TAFE or university; 18 have completed Year 12; 13 are in work. The retention rate of these at risk students is 88 percent.

On 7 June 2006, the program won a regional Showcase Award in the Leadership category.