

Question on Notice

No. 135

Asked on 20 February 2007

Mr Copeland asked the Minister for Education and Training and Minister for the Arts (Mr Welford) —

QUESTION:

With reference to the Government's election policy regarding funding for school chaplains – Will he advise (a) how schools can apply for this chaplaincy funding, (b) when schools will receive this funding and (c) what are the guidelines for application for this funding?

ANSWER:

The Beattie Government has committed \$3 million over three years (2007-08 to 2009-10) to further expand the pastoral care services available in schools.

We are committed to creating safe and supportive school environments for all Queensland students. In order to achieve this it is important that students have access to a range of support services while they are at school. Chaplaincy services can complement existing school support programs by addressing students' spiritual and emotional needs.

The procedures and guidelines for the distribution of funding are currently being finalised by my department. All schools will be advised of the process to access this support as soon as these procedures are complete.