

## Question on Notice

No. 263

Asked on 6 March 2007

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

### QUESTION:

With reference to the new Queensland Academies at Kelvin Grove and Toowong—

- (1) What are the total capital and recurrent costs (both estimated and actual) for the planning, establishment and operations of the academies for 2005-06 and 2006-07 (to date)?
- (2) How many students are currently enrolled at each academy (reported separately)?
- (3) How many students did his department anticipate would enrol in 2007 at each academy (reported separately)?

### ANSWER:

I thank the Member for his interest in the Queensland Academies. The timing of the question is very good because the state's best and brightest high school students are currently being encouraged to apply for places at the Queensland Academies for 2008. The first round of applications to attend the Academies in 2008, including the new Queensland Academy for Health Sciences on the Gold Coast, close on 19 April.

This is a great opportunity for our best and brightest students to attend one of our three world-class academies – and fast track their studies. Students who will be in Year 10 next year are welcome to apply for places at the Academy for Mathematics, Science and Technology at Toowong and the Academy for Creative Industries at Kelvin Grove. The Queensland Academy for Health Sciences on the Gold Coast will open for the first time in 2008 and places are available for students in Year 10 and Year 11.

The Academies offer students many benefits including state-of-the-art facilities, industry experience, the opportunity to fast-track tertiary study and individually mentored learning. Specifically, in regard to the Member's inquiries:

- (1) These figures are available in the Ministerial Portfolio Statement for 2005-06 and 2006-07, except for the actual for 2006-07. The actual expenditure to date for 2006-2007 is almost \$16.4 million.
- (2) There are currently 231 students enrolled at the Queensland Academy for Science, Mathematics and Technology at Toowong and 90 students enrolled at the Queensland Academy for Creative Industries, Kelvin Grove.
- (3) The Department anticipated it would receive over 600 applications for enrolments at the Academies.