

Question on Notice

No. 918

Asked on 7 June 2007

Mrs Cunningham asked the Minister for Education and Training and Minister for the Arts (Mr Welford)

QUESTION:

With reference to teachers who currently are allocated to the Reading Recovery Programme—

Will these teachers be re-allocated to new areas in Education Queensland once the Reading Recovery Programme ceases or will they become part of the 'new teacher' numbers?

ANSWER:

Reading Recovery teachers are full-time, experienced, successful early phase teachers who receive extra training and professional development to deliver the Reading Recovery program for part of each school day.

These teachers are generally employed as spending half of their time delivering the Reading Recovery program and half of their time doing general classroom duties.

In 2008, some Reading Recovery teachers will return to their positions as full-time classroom teachers as part of the transition from the Reading Recovery program to a much broader program of literacy support for all students.

My department is embarking on a program of intensive professional development in the teaching of reading for all teachers of Prep to Year 9 and all teacher aides in Prep to Year 3.

This will ensure that every teacher has the skills they need to deliver high quality literacy programs for all students. Children struggling with reading and writing will still be able to access one-on-one support from trained teacher aides.

Reading Recovery is still happening in our schools and will continue until the end of 2008 when our new literacy program has been rolled out to all schools.

Let me assure the Member that none of the Reading Recovery teachers returning to the classroom in 2008 are counted as part of the 'new teacher' numbers announced in the recent 2007-08 State Budget.

Up to an additional 192 full-time equivalents will be employed as teachers and teacher aides in 2007-08 to help meet enrolment growth in Queensland state schools and to support students with disabilities.