

Question on Notice

No. 1626

Asked on 30 October 2008

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

QUESTION:

With reference to teachers teaching in Queensland public schools—

What percentage of teachers are currently teaching in acting positions and not in full-time permanent positions?

ANSWER:

Currently, 14.7% of all full-time equivalent (FTE) teachers are working in a temporary or acting capacity in state schools.

All Education Queensland staff including teachers and principals are able to take parental, long service or sick leave. Permanent vacancies are also kept open in locations such as the Sunshine Coast to allow teachers who have worked in regional or remote areas of the state for a period of time to transfer to a preferred location. This creates temporary vacancies which provide opportunities for principals or teachers to act at a higher level.

Whilst I support the opportunity for our school leaders and teachers to access important professional development, we must be careful to ensure that these opportunities do not adversely affect our school communities.

My Department has introduced a range of procedures to address this matter and a number of measures are already being implemented across the state to reduce unnecessary school disruption.