

Question on Notice
No. 582
Asked on 24 March 2010

Mr Pitt asked the Minister for Education and Training (Mr Wilson) —

QUESTION:

Will the Minister provide details of any feedback regarding the Queensland Government's summer schools program, particularly in far north Queensland?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for his question and his interest in the Bligh Government's Summer Schools program.

The Bligh government prioritises a quality education for all young Queenslanders, particularly in the areas of literacy and numeracy. That is why Queensland is investing \$5.78M over three years in Summer Schools.

I am advised by the Department of Education & Training as follows.

The first round of 2010 Summer Schools were conducted during January at 62 sites across Queensland, delivering 15 hours of intensive teaching to approximately 1,900 eligible students.

Ten of the 62 sites were located in North and Far North Queensland. Specifically, Annandale, Atherton, Innisfail, Kirwin, Parramatta, Richmond Hill, Weir, Yarrabah State Schools, Redlynch State College and Bentley Park College

An evaluation report prepared by the Department on the January Summer Schools indicated:

- Based on qualitative and quantitative feedback provided by students, teachers, parents/carers and coordinators, there were high levels of satisfaction with the delivery of Summer Schools and outcomes achieved by students.
- That students benefited from their Summer Schools experiences in both confidence and achievement in relation to literacy and numeracy.
- Through parent/carer surveys that, 95.7 per cent were either very satisfied or satisfied with the overall Summer Schools program.
- An overall student retention average of 96.6 per cent.

An additional 11 sites in Far North Queensland and North Queensland rural and remote Indigenous communities are currently offering Summer Schools. Specifically, Doomadgee, Mornington Island, Normanton, Sunset, Happy Valley State Schools, Bwgcolman Community School, Western Cape College – Weipa, Western Cape College – Aurukun, Tagai State College – Thursday Island, Tagai State College – Mer Island, Tagai State College – Saibai Island.

These programs are due to conclude at the end of Term 2.

The Department will compile a report on these Summer Schools at the end of this program.