

Question on Notice

No. 794

Asked on 31 October 2013

Mrs Miller asked the Minister for Education, Training and Employment (MR LANGBROEK) –

QUESTION:

Will the Minister list (a) the name and location of every state alternative education facility/flexi-school in Queensland, (b) the total student capacity at each school and (c) the current enrolment numbers for each?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for her question.

Alternative education programs for students experiencing behavioural issues or who are disengaged, or at risk of being disengaged from conventional school environments are provided by Positive Learning Centres and Special Assistance Schools.

Positive Learning Centres are operated by Education Queensland and provide an alternative program for students of compulsory school age enrolled at a state school who require intervention beyond the capacity of the conventional classroom.

I have been advised by my Department that alternative education programs in Queensland state schools are developed at a regional level to meet student needs. There are 15 Positive Learning Centres in Queensland, as listed below. The capacity of these centres is flexibly resourced in response to requirements and therefore there is no stipulated capacity.

Enrolment numbers for Positive Learning Centres are not available as students move in and out of the school and routinely continue to be enrolled in their base school.

Special Assistance Schools are accredited non-state schools that cater specifically for young persons who are disengaged, or at risk of being disengaged, from education, training or employment. There are currently 19 non-state Special Assistance Schools. Enrolment policy and the determination of enrolment capacity for each Special Assistance School, as with all non-state schools, is at the discretion of their governing body.

I am advised that enrolment data for Special Assistance Schools is collected through an annual census. The data in the tables below was obtained through the census conducted in February 2013.

It should be noted that enrolments in the programs offered at Positive Learning Centres and Special Assistance Schools are fluid, with students attending full-time or part-time and moving in and out of centres depending on their program and the progress they make. Enrolment numbers in these programs can vary from week to week.

Alternative Education Programs

Special Assistance Schools (February 2013 Census)

Name	Location	2013 Primary	2013 Secondary	Total 2013 enrolments
Catholic				
Albert Park Flexible Learning Centre	Brisbane		85	85
Deception Bay Flexible Learning Centre	Deception Bay		126	126
Gympie Flexible Learning Centre	Gympie		70.4	70.4
Hemmant Flexible Learning Centre	Hemmant		26	26
Inala Flexible Learning Centre	Inala		37	37
Ipswich Flexible Learning Centre	Ipswich		67	67
Mount Isa Flexible Learning Centre	Mount Isa		82	82
Noosa Flexible Learning Centre	Sunshine Beach		62	62
The Centre Education Programme	Kingston		119	119
Townsville Flexible Learning Centre	Townsville		115	115
Youth and Community Learning Centre	Toowoomba		11.6	11.6
Independent				
Arethusa College	Deception Bay / Spring Hill		128.4	128.4
Burnett Youth Learning Centre	Elliott		41	41
Glendyne Education and Training Centre	Nikenbah	8	115	123
Jabiru Community College	Bracken Ridge		49	49
Southside Education Centre	Sunnybank		90	90
Toogoolawa School	Ormeau	8	33.6	41.6
YMCA Vocational School	Kingston		63	63
Arcadia College	Palm Beach / Southport		86	86
		16	1407	1423

Positive Learning Centres

Kippa-Ring State School
Bremer State High School
Cairns School of Distance Education
Capalaba State College
Clifford Park Special School
Dakabin State School
Eagleby South State School
Hervey Bay State High School
Kalkie State School
Merrimac State High School
Mitchelton State High School
Rockhampton State High School
Townsville State High School
Victoria Park State School
Woodridge State High School