

## Question on Notice

No. 120

Asked on 5 March 2014

**Mr Wellington** asked the Minister for Education, Training and Employment (Mr Langbroek) –

### QUESTION:

With reference to the increasing number of state primary school students who attend primary school with significant behaviour problems —

What additional resources are made available to assist primary schools deal with increased behaviour problems with students?

### ANSWER:

I thank the Member for his question.

I have been advised by my Department that there are approximately 2,000 full time equivalent (FTE) teachers to deliver targeted intervention across a range of areas, including behaviour support. These specialist teachers have the skills to assess the function of a student's behaviour and provide targeted intervention, to improve the outcomes for students with significant behaviour problems.

Regions have the flexibility to provide behaviour and learning support to all state schools, including primary schools, to meet the specific needs of school communities. Independent Public Schools receive direct-to-schools resourcing and can use this to provide the support required.

Additionally, there are more than 100 alternative education programs for both state and non-state students, including 15 Positive Learning Centres. These programs provide assistance for primary or secondary aged students who require specialised behaviour support.

A range of training materials is also available to train school staff in positively managing behaviour, including:

- *Schoolwide Positive Behaviour Support*, which is an organisational framework that schools use to identify and adopt evidence-based practices to ensure all students have the social and emotional skills to succeed in school and beyond.
- *Functional Behaviour Assessment*, which assists teachers to identify the purpose of the problem behaviour in the context in which it occurs and develop appropriate strategies to teach students alternative and acceptable ways to have their needs met.
- *Essential Skills in Classroom Management*, which is a training package in 10 skills essential for good classroom management.
- *Better Behaviour, Better Learning*, which is a course that covers introductory concepts associated with behaviour support and management in a school context.