

Question on Notice

No. 1277

Asked on 16 August 2016

MS DAVIS ASKED THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION AND MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND MAJOR EVENTS (HON K JONES) –

QUESTION:

With reference to Department of Education policy for the Education of Gifted and Talented Children will the Minister advise (a) how much funding is allocated for specific programs and courses to support children identified as 'gifted and talented', (b) how many students have been currently identified across Queensland as 'gifted and talented', and (c) what teaching resources are available in the classroom at a local level to help identify and develop students who are 'gifted and talented'?

ANSWER:

I am pleased we provide a range of support for gifted and talented students in Queensland. We assist schools to develop and deliver programs for gifted and talented students.

Regional offices use these funds to employ support staff, develop programs and resources and provide professional development.

State schools also direct *Investing for Success* (I4S) funding to boost student outcomes.

To further support state schools, the Department of Education and Training has a dedicated gifted and talented website for regional staff, principals and teachers, which contains:

- a *Gifted Education Professional Learning Package* which consists of six modules to support teachers' learning over the course of a professional development program. The package helps identify gifted and talented students and guides the development of curriculum to respond to the learning needs of these students;
- the *Curriculum provision to gifted and talented students*' support document for schools;
- information about resources outlining the characteristics of gifted and talented students and other supporting information; and
- checklists to support school staff to confidently identify gifted and talented students.

Some schools operate 'Schools of Excellence' that focus on specific areas or programs including sports, arts and key curriculum areas to support gifted and talented students. The process to establish a School of Excellence is determined at the local level by the school community.

The Department's Queensland Academies accelerate learning opportunities for Queensland's high achieving students in Years 10, 11 and 12. The Academies also provide the Young Scholars Programs for highly capable school students in Years 4 to 9, enabling them to participate in challenging online enrichment opportunities.