

Question on Notice

No. 1250

Asked on 19 September 2018

DR M ROBINSON ASKED MINISTER FOR EDUCATION AND MINISTER FOR INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS (HON G GRACE)

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise (a) whether two buildings earmarked for removal at the Ormiston State School in 2019 will be replaced with the equivalent number of new buildings and (b) what classroom resources will be in place to ensure there are no upcoming cuts to STEM classes and other programs?

ANSWER:

An Enrolment Management Plan (EMP) was implemented at Ormiston State School in December 2012 to manage out-of-catchment enrolments. In 2013, two prefabricated hire buildings were provided to Ormiston State School through the Emergent Minimum Requirements process to assist with the out-of-catchment enrolments.

The EMP will assist in managing enrolments within the built capacity of the school. The Department of Education will evaluate the 2019 Day 8 enrolment levels prior to any decision being undertaken to remove the hire buildings.

The *Advancing STEM in Queensland state primary schools* initiative will invest \$81.3 million over four years and will enable schools to source expertise from local secondary schools, universities or industry to make STEM learning more active and engaging.

This year, primary schools, including Ormiston State School, will receive this additional funding.

For a school with enrolment numbers similar to Ormiston State School with approximately 600 students, approximately \$15,000 will be provided in 2018, and more than \$150,000 to the school to support STEM over the four year period.

Principals, in consultation with their school community, make decisions about the allocation of funding, resources and programs that are best suited to meet the needs of their students. The Principal of Ormiston State School confirmed staffing for the STEM program will be maintained.

In addition, the department provides schools with a range of initiatives and resources through the *Schools of the future* STEM strategy:

- a STEM Champion in each region supports schools with professional learning and industry partnerships;
- a robotics library provides 10 Nao and six pepper humanoid robots to schools to develop cutting edge coding and robotics programs;
- the STEM Hub for schools provides high quality classroom resources to support the implementation of the Australian Curriculum: Science, Technologies and Mathematics; and
- the STEM hub for parents and students provides information about competitions and STEM career pathways.