

Question on Notice

No. 698

Asked on 26 May 2021

DR C ROWAN ASKED MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, MINISTER FOR INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS AND MINISTER FOR RACING (HON G GRACE)

QUESTION:

With reference to (i) primary schools, (ii) secondary schools and (iii) special schools—

Will the Minister advise which schools are currently without a permanent principal or have an acting principal in place?

ANSWER:

All Queensland state schools are allocated a permanent principal position. While a permanent principal is appointed to every school location, there will be occasions where an acting or relieving principal will be in a school. Those circumstances include periods of approved planned and unplanned leave, permanent officers undertaking alternate duties, retirements and resignations.

Relieving arrangements are always put in place as soon as an absence occurs or a vacancy arises and for the duration of any recruitment process.

The Department of Education endeavours to fill permanent principal vacancies as soon as they arise in order to minimise the number and duration of acting principals in state schools. Positions that are permanently owned by another principal can only be filled temporarily on the basis that the permanent principal will return to that school location on a specified future date.

As at 15 June 2021, there are 138 principals currently appointed in a relieving or temporary capacity. This equates to approximately 11% of the 1254 principal positions in Queensland state schools. Of these 138 principal vacancies, 62 (approximately 5% of all principal positions) are subject to a permanent recruitment process while the remaining positions are vacant due to the temporary absence of the substantive principal.