

Question on Notice

No. 1445

Asked on 30 November 2022

MR R KATTER ASKED MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, MINISTER FOR INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS AND MINISTER FOR RACING (HON G GRACE)

QUESTION:

With reference to the use of gendered language in schools —

Will the Minister advise if there are any directions or guidelines from any authority or governing body, including Education Queensland, that requires school employees – particularly teachers – to only use non-gendered language in their classrooms or other school settings?

ANSWER:

The Department of Education has not issued specific directions or guidelines relating to the use of non-gendered language.

Supporting the safety and wellbeing of all students is a priority for the department and Queensland state schools. Articulated in the department's *Student Learning and Wellbeing Framework*, schools create safe, supportive and inclusive environments where all students feel welcome and diversity is valued.

The department's *Respect* education program, which is aligned to the Australian Curriculum, has recently been reviewed. Following extensive consultation, the strengthened program includes information to help students understand the concepts of prejudice, discrimination, challenging stereotypes and promoting inclusion and acceptance of all young people.

As part of these approaches to supporting student wellbeing and embedding the *Respect* education program, schools may make local decisions to use non-gendered language in some instances.