

**Senate Committee: Education and Employment**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE  
Additional Estimates 2015 - 2016**

**Outcome: Agency: ACARA**

**Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ16-000026**

Senator O'Neill, Deborah provided in writing

***ACARA: costs for work on curriculum support for students with disability and EALD resource***

**Question**

Senator O'NEILL: Is ACARA currently funded to undertake this particular work around national disability curriculum?

Mr Randall: In terms of the council decision last year and what is in our work plan I will read from this, if that is okay: 'During the year will provide access to relevant resources developed for teachers of students with significant intellectual disability via the diversity section of the Australian curriculum website. It will add to the Australian curriculum website additional illustrations of practice focusing on how teachers plan and make age-appropriate adjustments for students with significant intellectual disability, and will include examples of different ways students might demonstrate what they know, understand and can do to the Australian curriculum general capabilities continua—literacy, numeracy and personal social capability.' That is what we have been funded to do in the immediate future.

Senator O'NEILL: Could you give me the quantum of the funding that is allocated to that task?

Mr Randall: I will take that on notice. I do not have that in front of me.

Senator O'NEILL: In most of my questions there I have focused on disability, but I would also be interested in any additional information you can give me around English as an additional language dialect. I realise those are very different points from what you have said, but I would be interested in that as well.

Going to question on notice SQ15-685, I would like to put on record my disappointment with the quality of the answer. Frankly, I was outraged when I read it. I thought, 'This is a complete disrespect of this process.'

**Answer**

The Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) has provided the following response.

ACARA has a budget allocation of \$100,000 (excluding staff salaries) for the three actions included in ACARA's work plan to better support teachers of students with significant intellectual disability. ACARA has also committed resources in the form of staff from its curriculum unit to this work.

ACARA has provided support for the teaching of the Foundation to Year 10 Australian Curriculum with English as an Additional Language or Dialect (EAL/D) students through the provision of the EAL/D Teacher Resource. This resource was primarily developed during 2011 and 2012 and has had minor edits and updates since that time. This work has been funded as part of ongoing maintenance of the curriculum.

No specific EAL/D work has been requested by Education Council under ACARA's current work plan. Since publication of improvements to the Australian Curriculum in October 2015, minor maintenance work has been undertaken to update related aspects of the resource.