

**Senate Committee: Education and Employment**

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

**Outcome: Early Childhood and Child Care**

**Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ16-000193**

Senator Lines, Sue provided in writing

***Duties performed by nannies***

**Question**

One nanny pilot service provider, Melbourne's Leading Nanny Agency, markets itself under the slogan "we care, we mind, we clean" and lists on its website (<http://melbournesleadingnannyagency.com.au/services>) that nannies registered with the agency are "responsible for child-related housekeeping duties", which can include "keeping the child's bedroom, closets and playroom clean and straightening and cleaning up the daily messes..."

It goes on to say "Nannies can help with kitchen cleanliness, emptying the dishwasher, wiping down the highchair, countertops, sink and emptying the bins".

And "...some nannies are happy to assist families with additional household tasks whilst children are sleeping, this would include family laundry, shopping, cooking, vacuuming and mopping of crawl play areas."

Extract from website:

What household tasks can I ask my nanny to do?

Typically nannies are responsible for child related housekeeping duties. Keeping the child's bedroom, closets and playroom clean and straightening and cleaning up the daily messes that come with Nannies can help with kitchen cleanliness, emptying the dishwasher, wiping down the highchair, countertops, sink and emptying the bins. Nannies are not cleaners - however some nannies are happy to assist families with additional household task whilst children are sleeping, this would include family laundry, shopping, cooking, vacuuming and mopping of crawl play areas. It is not unusual for a nanny to assist with the care of the families animals, however it is essential that you reach agreement with your nanny prior to commencement of a role to avoid any miscommunication or disappointment.

a. Is that an acceptable description of duties under the program guidelines?

Another provider, Placement Solutions, lists one of the functions of nannies under the pilot that it engages to include "washing the children's clothes".

b. Is that a permissible function for nannies in the pilot?

**Answer**

a. Some of the Nanny Pilot Programme service providers, including Melbourne's Leading Nanny Agency and Placement Solutions, also offer nannies and other services (such as cleaners and housekeepers) as a part of their other business. The description of duties from the referred websites does not directly refer to nannies engaged under the pilot programme.

b. Refer to a.