

**Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment - Education**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2014-2015**

**Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth**

**Department of Education Question No. ED0655\_15**

**Senator O'Neill asked on 22 October 2014 , Hansard page 118**

**Question**

**Students with disability loading**

Senator O'NEILL: So there is a change on the horizon. It would be very interesting if you could provide a full list of the meetings and consultations that have been undertaken in relation to developing this loading for the students with disability. Ms Paul: Oh gosh—over what time period? There have been so many. Mr Cook: Five years? Senator O'NEILL: How about we start around 7 September 2013—that is a pretty clear line in the sand. Ms Paul: Well, it has been ongoing. Mr Cook: There have been many, many. It has been to Education Council a number of times. There is a joint working group, as you would be aware, that has met; it last met last week. There have been many AESOC meetings. We can provide that.

**Answer**

All Australian government, Catholic and independent education authorities have been working collaboratively to implement the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on Students with Disability and to refine the funding loading for students with disability.

This work is being progressed through Education Council (formerly the Standing Council on School Education and Early Childhood), Schools Policy Group (formerly the Strategic Policy Working Group) and through the Joint Working Group to Provide Advice on Reform for Students with Disability (Joint Working Group).

The Joint Working Group, chaired by the Australian Government Department of Education, includes representation from state and territory government education authorities, the Independent Schools Council of Australia (ISCA), the National Catholic Education Commission (NCEC), and the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA).

<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Meeting date</b>
Joint Working Group	11 September 2013
Joint Working Group	25 September 2013
Strategic Policy Working Group	27 September 2013
Joint Working Group	23 October 2013
Joint Working Group	27 November 2013
Joint Working Group	18 December 2013
Joint Working Group	23 January 2014
Joint Working Group	13 February 2014

<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Meeting date</b>
Schools Policy Group	13 February 2014
Joint Working Group	11 March 2014
Schools Policy Group	14 March 2014
Standing Council on School Education and Early Childhood	11 April 2014
Joint Working Group	20 May 2014
Joint Working Group	17 June 2014
Joint Working Group	22 July 2014
Joint Working Group	19 August 2014
Schools Policy Group	8 September 2014
Joint Working Group	14 October 2014
Schools Policy Group	16 October 2014
Australian Education, Early Childhood Development and Youth Affairs Senior Officials Committee	17 October 2014
Education Council	31 October 2014

On 13 August 2014, the Australian Government undertook a national consultation with broader stakeholders on the funding loading for students with disability.