Senate Committee: Education and Employment

QUESTION ON NOTICE Supplementary Budget Estimates 2015 - 2016

Outcome: Early Childhood and Child Care

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ15-001007

Senator Lines, Sue provided in writing.

Work/activity reporting under the new child care system

Question

Under the new child care system, how will be parents be required to report work/activity? Will they be required to report in hours or ranges of hours?

Answer

The activity test is based on fortnightly activity to make it easier for families to estimate their entitlement to subsidised child care. Families working variable hours will be able to estimate their fortnightly average number of working hours over a three month period. The activity test has three broad steps and families would report changes in circumstances if their hours of recognised activity would cause them to move to another step of the activity test.