

**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES 2008-09**

Outcome 2

DEEWR Question No. EW930_09

Senator Humphries provided in writing.

Question

Gifted Education - funding arrangements

Now that Federal school funding has been allocated for the 2008/2009 Budget, what was the total funding allocated by the Federal Government in the current Budget for gifted Education?

Answer

Under the new federal financial arrangements agreed by the Council of Australian Governments the Commonwealth has moved from a funding approach which prescribed inputs (through targeted programs) to one which focuses on improving outcomes.

The Commonwealth has significantly increased funding for schools to improve outcomes for all students, including gifted and talented under the new federal financial arrangements. The commitment to provide \$46.5 billion in schools funding over the four year period 2009-2012 for government and non-government schools has increased compared to \$34.1 billion in the previous schools agreement. States and territories will be responsible for determining how best to target these funds to improve outcomes for students.

All states and territories have specific programs for gifted and talented children and they will be able to apply the increased Commonwealth funding to these programs.

There is no specific appropriation for gifted and talented in the 2008/2009 budget. This is consistent with previous arrangements.