

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace
Relations**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2011-2012**

Agency - Australian Curriculum, Assessment & Reporting Authority

DEEWR Question No. EW1185_12

Senator McKenzie asked on 16 February 2012 , Hansard page 34

Question

ACARA - cyber safety

Senator McKENZIE: My question refers to the government's response to the interim report of the Joint Select Committee on Cyber-Safety. In this, they do mention the national curriculum's role in ICT specifically. What discussions have there been? What meetings have there been and with whom around that issue? Dr Hill: I will hand over to Mr Randall, our general manager responsible for curriculum. He has been overseeing the development of ICT as a general capability and establishing the work we have been doing in curriculum, as ICT is a part of the curriculum. In both of those areas, ethical issues such as that play a prominent role. Mr Randall: As Dr Hill outlined, we are aware of the report and we have had discussions with officers involved in that. Where it fits— Senator McKENZIE: Which officers specifically? Mr Randall: I would need to check that. Senator McKENZIE: That would be great. Mr Randall: It has been transmitted to me and we have had discussion, but there are a lot of people I talk to, but I do not— Senator McKENZIE: That is fine. Just take it on notice. Mr Randall: I will come back to you with more detail on the contact.

Answer

ACARA has provided the following response.

Senator Dana Wortley, Chair Joint Select Committee on Cyber-Safety, invited ACARA to make a submission to this inquiry. ACARA submitted a response in December 2010, outlining how cyber safety would be addressed in the Australian Curriculum (general capabilities).

Information was also provided by email to Patrick Drake-Brockman, Cyber Policy Coordinator, Office of the National Security Chief Information Officer.

In November 2012 ACARA provided advice to Patrick Drake-Brockman from the Office of the National Security Chief Information Officer on general capabilities in the Australian Curriculum. This advice focused on the inclusion of the ICT capability which would see students learning to use ICT effectively and appropriately when investigating, creating and communicating ideas and information at school, at home, at work and in their communities.

The advice also included an invitation for a nominee to attend the Technologies National Forum on 5 December.