

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

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
Additional Estimates 2012-2013**

**Outcome 1 - Early Childhood, Working Age and Indigenous Participation**

**DEEWR Question No.** EW0978\_13

**Senator Nash asked on 14 February 2013, Hansard page 28**

**Question**

**National Quality Standard**

Senator NASH: Are there any particular areas that centres are failing in? Mr De Silva: I do not have a breakdown. It is not really failing. It is more about the extent to which they are reaching a higher quality. Senator NASH: Yes, that is a much better way of putting it. Mr De Silva: Because there are minimum requirements in the law, and there is the national quality standard which actually raises the quality benchmark. Senator NASH: Perhaps I could ask you take on notice which of the areas they are not exceeding as much as others over the minimum standard requirements? Mr De Silva: Yes.

**Answer**

A focus of the National Quality Framework and the National Quality Standard is to promote continuous quality improvement in early childhood education and care.

State and Territory Regulatory Authorities are responsible for the regulation of services under the National Quality Framework and for conducting assessment and rating of services against the National Quality Standard.

Services which have been assessed and rated against the National Quality Standard will have their ratings published on the mychild and ACECQA website by mid 2013. The Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority will use the published outcomes from assessment and rating process to identify particular areas of strength or weakness for services.