

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

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

**Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth**

**DEEWR Question No.** EW0990\_13

**Senator Scullion asked on 14 February 2013, Hansard page 67**

**Question**

**Nyangatjatjara College - historic details**

Senator SCULLION: Excellent. I have a question about Nyangatjatjara College. Who would know where and who you ask? If I can perhaps ask the question and somebody can say, 'No, we can't answer it because we don't have the people here.' Mr Goodwin: Yes. Senator SCULLION: I would like some historic details about Nyangatjatjara College. How long has it been funded by the Commonwealth? What facilities were built under the BER. I certainly have some questions on notice regarding whether you can provide me with how many people have actually graduated with year 10 qualifications and how many with year 12 qualifications? I do not expect that to be available now, but I am not sure if you could perhaps ask towards the end of the day if people have it, if not, we can take it on notice. How many students are currently attending the school? How many students can the residential facility accommodate? How many students are currently accommodated at that facility? Are Commonwealth funds used to fund a manager for the residential village? How many principals have been employed at the college since it opened? Those questions can relate to this day and date. If you have any of those answers now, that would be great, but if not I am more than happy to take them later in the day or on notice. Mr Goodwin: We will take them on notice.

**Answer**

**I would like some historic details about Nyangatjatjara College. How long has it been funded by the Commonwealth?**

Nyangatjatjara Aboriginal Corporation oversaw the establishment of Nyangatjatjara College. The College opened its doors on 21 July 1997. Its main campus is a school with boarding capacity at Yulara, with three smaller campuses at Imanpa, Mutitjulu and Kaltukatjara.

Since the College opened it has had access to Commonwealth recurrent school funding as a non-government school and to Indigenous specific funding as a school provider with Aboriginal students.

**What facilities were built under the BER.**

Under the BER, Nyangatjatjara College undertook two projects, approved by the Minister in 2009. Nyangatjatjara College received \$75 000 for building refurbishments under the National School Pride (NSP) element of the BER and this work was

completed in December 2009. A further \$850 000 for new classrooms and teacher accommodation was provided under the Primary Schools for the 21 Century (P21) element. This work was completed in May 2012.

**How many people have actually graduated with year 10 qualifications and how many with year 12 qualifications?**

The Department does not hold these records. There are no year 10 qualifications in any state, except NSW. Nyangatjatjara College is registered to provide up to Year 10 only, hence there have been no Year 12 graduates to date.

**How many students are currently attending the school?**

A total of 65 students were reported in the 2012 Census as attending that school. This total consists of:

- 16 at Yulara
- 12 at Imanpa
- 37 at Kaltukatjara
- 0 at Mutitjulu

The Mutitjulu students are bussed daily from Mutitjulu to the Yulara campus and are educated in the Yulara facilities. There are no longer any suitable facilities that can be used by the College in the Mutitjulu community. Therefore the statistics above show 16 students at Yulara and none at Mutitjulu.

**How many students can the residential facility accommodate?**

The current boarding capacity at Nyangatjatjara College is 40 boarders. The facilities are used for limited, short stay (3 – 5 days at a time) visits for the students from the two distant (Kaltukatjara and Imanpa) campuses when specific education programs are being conducted at Yulara.

**How many students are currently accommodated at that facility?**

The Department has been advised that some years ago the Nyangatjatjara College formally decided to discontinue boarding in order to concentrate on their core business of education. As reported in the non-government school census, undertaken in August each year, the last year for boarders was 2009 and we understand the school's position regarding boarders remains unchanged.

**Are Commonwealth funds used to fund a manager for the residential village?**

The residential facility is not being used for full-time boarding, and has not been used in this way for some time. DEEWR does not hold specific information on the use of Commonwealth funds to provide a salary for the manager's position.

**How many principals have been employed at the college since it opened?**

This is an Independent school. Your enquiry would be better directed to the school.