

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2003-2004 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: 1

Output Group: 1.2 – Assistance for individuals including those with special needs

DEST Question No. E006_04

Senator Crossin tabled on 4 June 2003

Question:

- (a) Which schools are part of the Scaffolding Literacy programme under NIELNS and when did each school become eligible for this programme?
- (b) What is the Department's involvement in this programme?
- (c) Is this programme due to be evaluated? If so when will this occur and by whom?
- (d) Are there plans to extend the funding for this programme and if so, has this been included in this year's budget and how much is this amount?

Answer:

- (a) Under NIELNS, there are four schools which are part of the Scaffolding Literacy programme. Where a literacy need had been identified, the following Indigenous remote community schools agreed to participate in the project for the quadrennium, 2001-2004:
 - *Wulungarra, Yiyili, Kulkarriya and the Strelley Community School (3 campuses.*

Under the Indigenous Education Strategic Initiatives Programme (IESIP) the University of Canberra was contracted to deliver the Scaffolding Literacy programme to:

At the beginning of 2001:

- Four Kimberley Aboriginal Independent Community (AIC) schools - *Yiyili, Kulkarriya, Yakanarra, Wulungarra;*
- Six Pilbara AIC schools - *Strelley (3 schools), Warralong and Woodstock, Rawa (including Well 33) and Parnngurr;*
- *Yipirinya Independent Community School* and
- *Shalom Christian College in Queensland.*

In term 2 of 2001 six southern WA schools were added:

- *Wongutha, Kurrawang, Coolgardie, Karalundi, Culunga and the Aboriginal Community College.*

In term 1 of 2002 *Yipirinya* was replaced by *Nyikina Mangala* to join the project.

At the end of 2002 the contract with the University of Canberra finished. From 2003 two individual Indigenous Education Agreements (IEAs) were put in place, an IEA with the Association of Independent Community Schools of Western Australia (AISWA) for the AICS in WA and an individual IEA with the Shalom Christian College, Queensland.

2003 Indigenous Education Agreements (IEAs)

At the beginning of 2003

- Thirteen AIC Schools are involved - *Wongutha, Coolgardie, Kurrawang, Culunga, Karalundi, Parnngurr, Rawa, Strelley, Nyikina Mangala, Kulkarriya, Wulungarra, Yakanarra, Yiyili; and*
- *Shalom Christian College in Queensland.*

By the end of Term 2, 2003:

- a fourteenth AIC school will join the project.
- (b) In 2003 the Department manages and monitors the two individual Indigenous Education Agreements between itself and AISWA for the AICS in WA and Shalom Christian College in Queensland.
- (c) The programme was evaluated in the latter half of 2002 by the Australian Council of Educational Research (ACER).
- (d) This project is run on a calendar year basis and at this point there has been no submissions for funding for 2004. A determination as to the amount available has not as yet been made by the Department. Recipients of funding under the Indigenous Education Strategic Initiatives Programme (IESIP) are able to use their IESIP funding for Scaffolding. DEST understands that the Northern Territory Department of Employment, Education and Training is trialling the Scaffolding Accelerated Literacy Programme at three sites:
- Anzac Hill High School, Alice Springs;
 - Gillen Primary School, Alice Springs; and
 - Roper River/Ngukurr Primary School, Katherine.