

## EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

### SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2005-2006 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

**Outcome:** 1

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

#### **DEST Question No. E090\_06**

Senator Carr provided in writing.

#### **Question:**

(i) What is the rationale for the policy that explicitly states that tutors in the Tutorial Credit Initiative "... should not be the student's regular class teacher ..."?

(ii) Why would extra tuition from a qualified and active teacher not be deemed helpful to a student with reading difficulties?

#### **Answer:**

*Use of student's regular class teacher*

(i) There are a number of reasons why the student's regular class teacher should not normally be the tutor under the pilot Tutorial Voucher Initiative. It is considered that:

- such an arrangement may be a conflict of interest;
- a tutor who is different from the student's regular teacher may provide different techniques to overcome learning difficulties and engage the student;
- as tutors under the pilot Tutorial Voucher Initiative should normally be qualified teachers, this approach provides the student with the experience of two qualified teachers to assist with their reading. This Initiative provides additional assistance above that provided by the school.

(ii) Tuition from a qualified and active teacher trained in reading techniques with the target group is preferred under the pilot Tutorial Voucher Initiative Broker/Tutor Guidelines. It is only in limited circumstances that lesser qualified persons are permitted to provide tuition, and any such persons are required to have extensive experience in teaching reading to the target group. There is no intention that current teachers be excluded from providing tuition under the Initiative.