

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

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

Outcome: 1

Output Group: 1.1 – Funding for schools

DEST Question No. E107_06

Senator Allison provided in writing.

Question:

The Australian newspaper reported the planned establishment of a new for-profit school in Springfield, Queensland, by ABC Learning Centres on 12 May 2005. What Federal accountability requirements would it have to meet? Would it have to implement the NSSF, have a flagpole, or ensure its students exercise for 2 hours per week?

Answer:

Recurrent funding

To be eligible for Australian Government recurrent funding a non-government school must be recognised by the State Government and the governing body of the school (the approved authority) must provide evidence that it is incorporated, has the power to conduct a school and is not conducted for profit.

All non-government schools must sign an Agreement with the Commonwealth before funding is provided. The Agreement sets out the financial and educational accountability requirements attached to Australian Government funding which all schools must meet, including flying the Australian Flag and ensuring primary grade students have 2 hours per week of physical activity.