

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2006-2007 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: 1

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

DEST Question No. E309_07

Senator Wong provided in writing.

Question:

Why does the evaluation report use 'improvements in reading age' rather than measuring students' performance against the national reading benchmarks?

- a. Does the Department have information about the test results of the children who completed the tutorial assistance program in comparison with the national benchmarks? If so, please provide details.
- b. Please provide any information about how the children performed in the Year 5 tests, which they should have done in 2005?

Answer:

Pilot Tutorial Voucher Initiative – student outcomes

The Department does not have access to benchmark results for individual students. Overall results from the pilot indicate that the majority of students who received tuition had improved their reading scores, and a significant proportion of these students had improved considerably with an average gain of around 12 months in terms of reading age.