

EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS
SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE – QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
2008–2009 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome 2

DEEWR Question No. EW706_09

Senator Allison asked on 4 June 2008, EEWHR Hansard page 135.

Question

Yachad Accelerated Learning Program – remote areas

Senator Allison: No just hold onto the buy-in problem first of all. Can you explain that? What you are suggesting here sounds a bit like teachers, principals or leaders – or whatever you call them – were enthusiastic at the outset but became less so, in the remote areas. Is that fair to say?

Answer

Examples of feedback from the principals of the two remote schools involved in the program:

- In June 2007, the Western Cape College advised that the program should be able to be concluded at the Aurukun site in 2007 *“by training and empowering Teacher Aides and selected recent school leavers as tutors”*.
- In November 2006, the Principal of the Halls Creek District High School advised YALP that *“concerns about sustainability of the project and its links to the Aboriginal Literacy Strategy have culminated in the decision to discontinue with the YACHAD project in 2007. The school’s staffing ratio does not extend to individual literacy withdrawal programs and the high turnover of teaching and support staff has contributed to the erratic implementation of this project with no attributable improvements on standardised assessment measures”*.