

**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES 2009-10**

Outcome/Agency **2**

DEEWR Question No. **EW444_10**

Senator Hanson-Young provided in writing.

Question

Disclosure of public funding:

- (i) When will the full information on funding of schools be included on the ACARA website?
- (ii) Who has supplied the necessary funding information (independent, Catholic or Government)?
- (iii) When will private schools be required to report publicly on their funding sources as required under the Schools Assistance Act?

Answer

- (i) Education Ministers have agreed that school income information will be published in 2010. It is expected that this will occur in the second half of the year.

There are significant differences in how schools are managed and funded across States and Territories, and between independent schools and schools that belong to systems. These differences mean that school income data is not currently comparable between jurisdictions and schooling sectors. The Australian Government, states and territories and the non-government sector are working together to ensure the comparability of school income data to enable publication in 2010.

- (ii) To date, no income information has been provided to ACARA as the specific details on what will be collected and published for school level income reporting has not been finalised. Once the details have been agreed the relevant data will be provided to ACARA.
- (iii) Once the specific details as to what will be collected and published for school level income reporting have been agreed, all schools (both government and non-government) will be required to provide the necessary data to ACARA.

Once the details for reporting income have been agreed, all schools will also be required to publish income information in their annual reports.

Education Ministers have agreed that this information will be reported on the national website in 2010.