

Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace Relations

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Supplementary Budget Estimates 2012-2013

Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth

DEEWR Question No. EW0519_13

Senator Mason provided in writing.

Question

Framework for Open Learning

What is the framework for open learning? a. Which organisation has developed the framework? b. How does it benefit students?

Answer

The Framework for Open Learning Program (FOLP) supports the integration of information and communications technologies (ICT) into teaching and learning across the schools, vocational education and training, and higher education sectors.

In 2011-12, FOLP supported projects and activities that benefit the teaching profession to assist students including:

- the Computer Technologies for Schools program that facilitates donations of surplus ICT equipment from government and private organisations to schools around Australia, mostly primary
- the National Copyright Unit that manages copyright issues relating to the use of digital resources for schools and TAFEs nationally, including the SmartCopying website, which is an online resource for teachers.
- the annual IDEA Conference, which brings together technologists and educators from the schools, vocational and tertiary sectors with a focus on emerging technologies that support teaching and learning
- Australia's annual membership of the United States based, IMS Global Learning Consortium that develops specifications and best practices for interoperability between learning technologies, particularly digital content and interactive resources
- support of the cross-sectoral Australian Information and Communications Technologies in Education Committee, which is a committee under the Standing Council for School Education and Early Childhood, responsible for encouraging the effective use of ICT in education.