

Question on notice no. 26

Portfolio question number: SQ24-001384

2024-25 Supplementary budget estimates

Education and Employment Committee, Education Portfolio

Senator the Hon Sarah Henderson: asked the Department of Education on 21 November 2024—

- (1. On what date did the Voluntary Mental Health Check Tool go live?
2. Were all of the funds expended on this project - the full \$10.8 million?
3. QoN SQ24-000860 states schools can register to use the tool on the website. How many schools have registered?
4. The website notes the tool provides real time data about student mental health and wellbeing. Who has access to this data?
 - a. Is it just the schools?
 - b. Does Macquarie University, who developed the tool collect the data too and analyse it?
 - c. Will they provide any reports or analysis to government about the findings?
 - d. Have any reports been provided to date?

Answer —

Please see PDF attachment.

Standing Committees on Education and Employment

QUESTION ON NOTICE Supplementary Budget Estimates 2024 - 2025

Outcome: Schools

Department of Education Question No. SQ24-001384

Senator Sarah Henderson provided in writing.

Voluntary Mental Health Check Tool

Question

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Answer

1. The Voluntary Mental Health Check Tool (also known as My Mind Check) was ready for use in all jurisdictions in Term 2, 2024.
2. Through the Student Wellbeing Boost, \$10.75 million was allocated for the Voluntary Mental Health Check Tool. A total of \$10.5 million has been expended for development and implementation, with the remaining \$250,000 to be expended as the project progresses.
3. As of 22 November 2024, 986 schools have registered their interest to use the Voluntary Mental Health Check Tool, with 32 schools across 6 states/territories and the Catholic and independent sectors having registered for its use.
4. Student data collected by My Mind Check will not be disclosed outside of individual schools, with only authorised school staff to access student data collected at their school. These staff can only view students' aggregated indicators and do not have access to individual answers to questions. Schools' use of this data is subject to privacy obligations as noted under the Terms of Use agreement accepted by schools to use My Mind Check.

In order to provide technical support to participating schools, a limited number of authorised Macquarie University project staff have access to the data. Macquarie University staff access to this data is in accordance with contractual and privacy obligations.

As part of the contractual reporting obligations, Macquarie University will provide a final report to the Australian Government Department of Education in May 2025. This will include statistical uptake and usability data including the number of schools per jurisdiction and the proportion of government and non-government schools that have opted to participate. This will not include the name of individual schools or student information. The report will not include any student mental health and wellbeing data or analysis.