Senate Committee: Education and Employment

QUESTION ON NOTICE Additional Estimates 2014 - 2015

Outcome: Agency: ACARA

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ15-000033

Senator O'Neill, Deborah asked on 25 February 2015, Hansard page 54

ACARA - number of placements (regarding 9 to 10 rollout of the National Trade Cadetship)

Question

Senator O'NEILL:How many placements with the national 9 to 10 rollout of the National Trade Cadetship have occurred, and what partnerships are established there? Mr Randall: We will have to come back to you with some information, if we can collect it, about what states and territories are doing with that. It is not different from my answer on languages. We develop the curriculum. We are not responsible for implementing it. It is there, and then states and territories within their frameworks will make decisions about implementing it. I understand your question. We do not have that data. I will have to have a look to what extent it is available for us to bring back to you.

Senator O'NEILL: What processes do you have in place for those implementing the program? Is it implemented in every state and territory?

Mr Randall: It is available for states and territories to use. My point just a moment ago was we need to have a look at what decisions they are taking and in what time lines. I think, in a question on notice, we have given you some advice about where various states and territories are up to with things. It will be said in that context. There may be some that have not even looked at it yet. We will have to take that on notice and come back to you.

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Mr Cook: I think the year 9 and 10 work is more focused on vocational learning as opposed to work placements. Is that correct, Mr Randall?

Mr Randall: Again, we will have a look.

Answer

The Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority has provided the following response.

The Australian Curriculum: Work Studies (Years 9-10) does not mandate work placement. The curriculum takes a vocational learning approach and emphasises exposing students to work in a wide variety of ways, both in the classroom and outside the classroom.

The Australian Curriculum: Work Studies (Years 9-10) was published in October 2014 on the basis that it is available for use across Australia, but not yet endorsed by Education Council. Implementation is the responsibility of states and territories. To ACARA's knowledge, no state or territory is currently implementing Work Studies.