

Senate Committee: Education and Employment

**QUESTION ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2016 - 2017**

Outcome: Schools and Youth

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ17-000351

Senator Hanson-Young, Sarah provided in writing.

Chaplaincy programme

Question

Are Australian public schools secular institutions? If so, is it appropriate to spend a quarter of a billion dollars of tax payer money to give students advice from one specific religion?

Answer

It is the responsibility of the states and territories to establish arrangements for the provision of public school education, including religious instruction, in their jurisdiction.

The National School Chaplaincy Programme Project Agreement clause 9 (c) states that a chaplain may be from any faith.