

**Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment - Education**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
Budget Estimates 2014-2015**

**Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth**

**Department of Education Question No. ED0207\_15**

**Senator O'Neill provided in writing.**

**Question**

**Schools: Students First**

The Coalition's Policy for Schools: Students First commits the government to:refocus the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority to ensure it is focused on developing the highest possible standard curriculum. We will transfer all data, reporting and compliance functions that are not curriculum related back to the Department of Education – this will free the Authority to direct its resources into developing rigorous benchmarking processes so we can compare our curriculum against the world's best curricula. It will also ensure that we are able to regularly make improvement to the curriculum over time so it remains competitive and a. Is the transfer to the Department proceeding? If not, why not?

**Answer**

The Australian Government is committed to refocus the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) on the development of a national curriculum by transferring ACARA's data and reporting functions into the Australian Government Department of Education.

The Department is working with ACARA to analyse the processes, resources, data collection and IT systems that underpin ACARA's data and reporting work.

The Minister has undertaken to provide updates to the Standing Council on School Education and Early Childhood as work progresses.