

Senate Committee: Education and Employment

**QUESTION ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates 2015 - 2016**

Outcome: Agency: ACARA

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ15-000612

Senator O'Neill, Deborah asked on 04 June 2015, Proof Hansard page 51

ACARA: Technologies curriculum

Question

Senator O'NEILL: Have any of the state and territory curriculum authorities, professional associations or peak bodies suggested to you that the technologies curriculum, which is a foundation to 10 curriculum—

Mr Randall: Yes.

Senator O'NEILL: is inappropriate to begin at the F level?

Mr Randall: No. I think some have challenged it. Again, I would need to go back and work through the process. But the challenge—

Senator O'NEILL: What is the overall consensus, Mr Randall?

CHAIR: Maybe you could take that on notice.

Mr Randall: I am happy to.

Answer

The Australian Curriculum Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) has provided the following response.

Regarding the appropriateness of the Technologies curriculum from Foundation, while there were some concerns raised during the Shaping phase and through the consultation on the draft curriculum, the focus of these concerns was mainly teacher expertise and less so student capacity. One of the writers and advisors for the Australian Curriculum: Technologies was Professor Marilyn Fler, the Chair of Early Childhood Education at Monash University. Professor Fler was very mindful of the expectations for Foundation to Year 2 (F-2). As the curriculum is written in bands, the F-2 achievement standard establishes the expectation that students will achieve the standard by the end of Year 2. The overall general view was that it was appropriate for the Technologies curriculum to be written from Foundation to Year 10.