

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment - Education

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

Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Care

Department of Education Question No. ED0447_15

Senator Lines provided in writing.

Question

Outside School Hours Care services

Can the department provide:

- (a) the number of schools currently offering Outside School Hours Care on school grounds (including schools that outsource service but provide it on school grounds)? Can you provide that by state and territory?
- (b) the number of Outside School Hours Care services that are provided off school grounds? Can you provide that by state and territory?
- (c) What programs and initiatives are in place to increase OSHC places?

Answer

(a) & (b) The Department of Education does not keep data on whether Outside School Hours Care (OSHC) services are located on school grounds.

(c) The Community Support Programme provides assistance to eligible OSHC services. The Australian Government also supports parents to access OSHC and other child care services through the payment of Child Care Benefit and Child Care Rebate.

The Government tasked the Productivity Commission to inquire into all forms of Early Childhood Education and Care including OSHC and to identify future options. The Government has received the final report and is considering the findings and recommendations.