

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment - Education

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

Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth

Department of Education Question No. ED0540_15

Senator O'Neill provided in writing.

Question

School funding correspondence

In relation to Ministerial correspondence (including electronic correspondence) about school funding: a. Since the 2014 Budget, how much correspondence has the Minister received in relation to schools funding? b. How many items of correspondence have been responded to? c. What is the average time taken to respond? d. How many items of correspondence has the Minister signed? How many have been signed by his office? How many have been signed by the Department? How many have not been responded to? e. How many items related to school funding and cuts announced in the Budget? What proportion has supported the cuts? What proportion has opposed? Can a breakdown be provided by state and territory, and federal electorate?

Answer

- a. The Hon Christopher Pyne MP, Minister for Education, received 240 items of ministerial correspondence (including electronic correspondence) about school funding from 14 May 2014 to 31 October 2014.
- b. There were responses to 197 of these items of correspondence.
- c. The average time allocated for a response was 10.6 days.
- d. All responses were prepared for the Minister's signature.
- e. No school funding cuts were announced in the 2014-15 Budget as funding to schools increases year on year.