

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2003-2004 ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: 1
Output Group: 1.1 – Funding for schools

DEST Question No. E828_04

Senator Carr provided in writing.

Refers to DEST question E617_03

Question:

Please explain the following apparent anomalies in schools data provided by the Department, principally in QON E617_03:

- “NS” means “new school” – is that correct? Why are some schools listed as having no enrolments in 2001, but not as “NS”?
- in some cases what were listed as campuses of multi-campus schools in 2000 appear as “schools” and not “campuses” in 2001, with the enrolment of one of the “campuses” from the previous year. Can you explain this?
- Are SES scores always, or sometimes, allocated by individual campus of a school? Please explain the policy in this regard. (Eg Why does Geelong Grammar – Corio have a separate score from Geelong Grammar – Glamorgan and Geelong Grammar – Highton, while multi-campus schools such as Wesley College in Melbourne have only one SES score assigned?)

Answer:

Anomalies in schools data

In the schools data provided in QON E617_03, “NS” does refer to a “new school”. Of the data provided in response to that question, there are no schools listed with zero enrolments.

The response to QON E617_03 did not identify clients as multi-campus or as subsidiary campuses. It is therefore unclear which data items are referred to in this question.

Schools are registered within their State/Territory as either single campus schools or multi-campus schools. The SES score is attributed to the whole school community and is therefore one score across all locations for those schools with multi-campus structures. The three Geelong Grammar Schools are registered by the Victorian Education Minister as three separate schools, approved for General Recurrent Grant funding as three separate schools and therefore have three separate SES scores.