

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment - Education

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2013-2014**

Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth

Department of Education Question No. ED0465_14

Senator McKenzie asked on 26 February 2014, Hansard page 120

Question

Student First initiatives

I do note on page 132 of MYEFO that one of the Student First initiatives is \$2 million over two years for agriculture in education. I am wondering whether I could have a brief understanding of what this new initiative will bring to the table in terms of the committee's earlier considerations. Mr Cook: That \$2 million is predominantly for the development of support materials and curriculum resources for teachers in schools. So we will likely partner with one of the national bodies that looks at resource development across Australia. It will include things like videos to assist teachers in the teaching of agriculture in education. There will be at least 40 new curriculum resources being developed as well. It will build on the existing food in the Australian curriculum initiative, so we will take where we currently are but extend it with this additional money. Senator McKENZIE: So will that be available right across from prep to year 10? Mr Cook: I will have to take that on notice. I suspect it would be but I am happy to take that on notice. That will be part of the discussions we actually have with the provider. In terms of matching the national curriculum, from F to 10, it would fit in with that concept.

Answer

It is anticipated that the online teacher support materials and curriculum resources developed through the Agriculture in Education initiative will support teaching and learning about the importance of food and fibre production from Foundation to Year 10, where relevant curriculum links exist within learning areas in the Australian Curriculum.