

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace
Relations**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates 2010-2011**

Outcome 1 - Early Childhood

DEEWR Question No.EW0110_11

Senator Payne provided in writing.

Question

CHILD CARE HOURS - LONG DAY CARE

What is the average span of hours for long day care?

Answer

The Department does not request the daily, variable operational opening and closing times of approved Long Day Care centres. However, once a centre-based Long Day Care service is approved for Child Care Benefit purposes, they must continue to ensure that the service operates on all normal working days in at least 48 weeks of the year and that the service will be available to provide care for any particular child for at least eight continuous hours on each normal working day on which it operates.

Any service is at liberty to make its own business decisions in relation to their operations and deliver services over and above these minimum requirements if deemed viable and appropriate.