Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace Relations

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Supplementary Budget Estimates 2011-2012

Agency - Australian Curriculum, Assessment & Reporting Authority

DEEWR Question No. EW0809_12

Senator Thistlewaite asked on 20 October 2011, Hansard page 27

Question

ACARA - alternative schools

Senator THISTLETHWAITE: Would that also include an international school that might be only offering the International Baccalaureate? Dr Hill: It would be hard for us to identify such schools unless they had it in the title. If a school happens to be running the International Baccalaureate program, we do not have in our database that indicator or who is doing it. Senator THISTLETHWAITE: But if they are not offering domestic courses as such, if they are only offering those courses, they would not be subject to NAPLAN? Dr Hill: Yes, if they were a registered school they would still do NAPLAN. Senator BACK: So it would be interesting if we can as a group receive data on those as well. Dr Hill: We will take it on notice and we will see what we can do in terms of breakdown.

Answer

ACARA has provided the following response.

Schools offering the International Baccalaureate (IB) program are accredited at the jurisdictional level. Identification of schools offering the IB is not currently an agreed reporting requirement for jurisdictions and, at this point in time, ACARA does not have structured information on the nature of the education programs provided in individual schools. It is therefore not possible to provide an accurate list of all schools offering the IB and their comparative performance.