



Mr Andrew Wall MLA  
Chair  
Select Committee on Estimates  
ACT Legislative Assembly  
GPO Box 1020  
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Dear Mr Wall

I am writing to correct the record concerning information Ms Natalie Howson, Director-General, Education Directorate provided to the Committee on 30 June 2017, concerning provision of an Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) to home schooling students. Ms Howson is currently on leave and I am providing this information as Acting Director-General, Education Directorate.

Ms Howson incorrectly advised that students can gain an ATAR through the home schooling program (p87 of the uncorrected proof copy of the 30 June 2017 transcript).

I can clarify that home school students have a number of options to gain an ATAR or university admission. They can gain an ATAR by studying for the NSW HSC through the Karabar Distance Education Centre located in Queanbeyan. The ATAR is equivalent to those gained by students who complete the ACT Senior Secondary Certificate. The ACT does not have an online or distance education centre.

They can enrol in an ACT college for their final two years of school in the ACT. This is a common pathway for students who have been home schooled to year 10 and wish to have an ACT Senior Secondary Certificate and an ATAR.

Students can also approach universities individually to ascertain what provision there is for non-ATAR entry. I understand that non-ATAR entry comprises more than 50 percent of all university admissions.

I trust this clarifies the position for the Committee.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'MegBa'.

Meg Brighton  
A/g Director-General  
6 July 2017