



Inquiry into annual and financial reports 2024–2025

Answer to question on notice

Asked by: Ms Fiona Carrick MLA

Addressed to: Minister for Education and Early Childhood

Reference: Education

Hearing: 17/11/2025

In relation to: Education and Strong Foundations Phase 1 implementation

Question received: 22/11/2025

Answer Due: 05/12/2025

Would you please provide an update on recommendations 5 and 6 of the Strong Foundations Phase 1 implementation

Recommendation 5 - Consistent assessment and diagnostic tools

- Has the new Assessment Strategy been developed - to explain what, when, how and why assessments are used?
- Has the trial and testing of new assessments been finalised and what were the outcomes - to see when the assessments are most useful and what support teachers need to use them effectively?

Recommendation 6 - Provide individual and group support for students

- Has the trial for new tiered-support models been finalised and what were the outcomes?
- When will the new tiered-support models be implemented in all public schools?

Ms Yvette Berry MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

The implementation of Strong Foundations Phase 1 is on track.

Assessment

The commitment to develop an assessment strategy has been delivered through a new Assessment Guide which will be required to be implemented by all ACT public schools as part of a new Learning and Teaching Policy to be implemented in 2026. The guide steps through the what, when, how and why assessments are used. The new policy was designed in close consultation with key stakeholders including staff and has had input from former members of the Literacy and Numeracy Education Expert Panel.

System-wide assessments for literacy and numeracy were trialled and a new mandated system assessment schedule will be introduced for all students K-10. This will include required literacy and numeracy assessments from the ACER PAT assessment suite and the Year 1 Phonics Check.

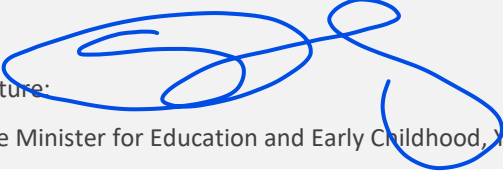
Tiered Supports

In 2025, the Phase 1 Implementation Plan committed to and has delivered:

- Review current approaches to tiered supports across all schools.
- Identify multi-tiered systems of support (MTSS) models to test in 2026.

Further scoping and testing in 2026 will support the Directorate to identify a clearer timeframe for delivery of a system MTSS in every school. However, all schools currently provide a range of different tiered supports. The intention of Strong Foundations is to support a system-wide and consistent approach to an MTSS across all ACT public schools.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Social Policy

Signature: 
By the Minister for Education and Early Childhood, Yvette Berry MLA

Date: 10/12/25