



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

QON No. 36 ECI

STANDING COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY INCLUSION
MICHAEL PETERSSON MLA (CHAIR), JOHNATHAN DAVIS MLA (DEPUTY CHAIR), PETER CAIN MLA

Inquiry into referred 2019–20 Annual and Financial Reports
ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Asked by Mr Davis MLA:

In relation to:

Restrictive Practices

I note the section in the annual report on the Positive Behaviour for Learning framework, particularly the directorates work with the Senior Practitioner on minimising restrictive practices.

1. How many instances of restrictive practice were used on ACT students in 19/20?
2. What is being done by the directorate to minimise and ideally eliminate restrictive practice?

Minister Berry MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows: –

1. In 2019 there were 654 instances of Restrictive Practices (RP) reported. In 2020, 379 instances of RP were reported.
2. In ACT Public schools, restrictive practice is used as a last resort only when there is imminent risk to safety, for the student or others. It is not permitted to be used for compliance or to respond to verbal threats, or to prevent property damage. Creating positive school climates and high-quality support networks is central to our approach to reducing all behaviours of concern. This includes supporting our children and young people with communication, self-regulation, and coping strategies.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Community Inclusion

Signature:

By the Minister for Education and Youth Affairs, Yvette Berry MLA

Date:

21/04/21