

**MINISTER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL  
TERRITORY**

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, TRAINING AND YOUTH AFFAIRS  
Annual and financial reports 2009-10**

**Tuesday 9 November 2010**

**Question Taken On Notice**



**Mr Coe** asked the Minister for Children and Young People:

In relation to the metalwork room –

1) Why did they not use it? Was it inappropriate staffing levels? Was it that there were not procedures in place? What was the actual limiting factor why these facilities, which presumably cost considerable sums, have not been utilised?

2) How many young people have gone through Bimberi?

3) In relation to the metalwork room: Were there some young people that would have been assessed as being possible users of that facility?

**MINISTER BURCH** - The answer to the Committee's question is as follows:

- 1) Metalwork classes were available in 2009 and in Term 1, 2010. Student access to the metal workshop was reduced due to the small resident population, high turnover of short term remandees and restrictions on some young people as a result of safety and/or security concerns regarding their access to tools. The number of sentenced young people has increased throughout the year, with more being assessed as low risk and therefore able to access workshop facilities and tools. The ACT Department of Education and Training is engaging a Registered Training Organisation to provide metalwork to students in 2011.
- 2) The total number of young people who have been through Bimberi as at 16 November 2010 is 266.
- 3) A metalwork program was delivered until early 2010. The participation in this program was at times reduced due to the small resident population, high turnover of short term remandees and restrictions on some young people due to safety and/or security concerns regarding their access to tools.

Any young person assessed as suitable, would have had the opportunity to participate in this program according to the program schedules developed by the Department of Education and Training.

**Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.**

**Joy Burch, MLA**

Minister for Children and Young People

7.12.10.  
Date:.....