



**Inquiry into ACT Budget 2021–22**  
**ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE**

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Asked by Mr Johnathan Davis MLA on 21 October 2021 to Minister for Education and Youth Affairs:

In relation to: Gender Equity Education (Output 1)

Over \$2m has been invested in education about gender equality in ACT Government schools.

- a. Can you provide more information about how this will be undertaken?
- b. What expertise are you drawing on to develop this work?
- c. Which community organisations have been consulted in the development of this work to date?
- d. Do you foresee this work being rolled out by a community partner or internal to the directorate?
- e. Will this content cover education on consent?

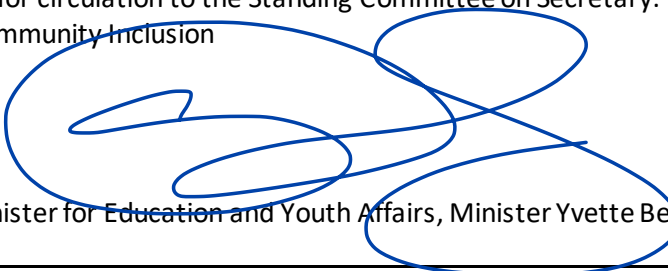
MINISTER BERRY The answer to the Member's question is as follows:–

- a. The ACT Government investment of \$2m over four years will provide a considered, evidenced-based approach to preventing gender-based violence through embedding gender equality in ACT Government schools; via curriculum development, learning resources and professional development opportunities for teachers. In order to support gender equity in schools there will initially be the recruitment of a team with expertise on gender equality, consent and sexuality who will provide professional learning, coaching and support to school-based staff to uplift teaching capability in this area.
- b. The ACT Government is drawing on extensive research in this area in addition to consultation with experts, community partners and educational institutions in the development of this work.
- c. Consultation with community organisations will be undertaken to further inform the ACT Government's approach to Gender Equality in ACT Schools. The Education Directorate and University of Canberra recently participated in a roundtable event about relationships, sexuality and consent education which brought together school sectors, universities and the community and was attended by a broad range of experts and stakeholders including school leaders and teachers from public, Catholic and Independent schools, Youth Advisory Council members, the Teacher Quality Institute, ACT Policing, pre-service teachers, academics from the University of Canberra and the Australian Catholic University, parent representatives and community groups. The Education Directorate will build on the learning from this event and continue to engage with stakeholders, including community organisations.
- d. Approaches to the gender equality work will be informed by best-practice research and consultation with relevant government agencies, community groups and experts. This may involve partnering with community organisations.

e. The gender equality work will cover education on consent.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Secretary: Standing Committee on Education and Community Inclusion

Signature:

A large, stylized handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and curves.

Date: 03/11/21

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