



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES 2014-2015

Brendan Smyth MLA (Chair), Mary Porter MLA (Deputy-Chair),
Giulia Jones MLA, Yvette Berry MLA



ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE DURING PUBLIC HEARINGS

Asked by Mrs Jones on 23 June 2014: Ms Beth Mitchell took on notice the following question(s):

[Ref: Hansard Transcript 23 June 2014 Page 56]

1. How many asylum seekers, refugees and students on all types of visas are in ACT public and non-government schools?
2. Which colleges and schools are educating these students?
3. Are these students eligible for support services such as English as an Additional Dialect or counsellor or other support?
4. Over the last 5 or 10 years, how many of these students have completed year 12?
5. What are the funding arrangements for each of the different visa categories?

MINISTER JOY BURCH MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:—

1. How many asylum seekers, refugees and students on all types of visas are in ACT public and non-government schools?

- 103 dependents of asylum seekers on bridging visa subclasses have been enrolled in ACT public schools from 2012 to the present.
- 130 students in community detention have enrolled in ACT schools since June 2011.

The table below shows the number of full fee paying international students on a student visa subclass 571, and dependents of temporary residents.

Year	Student Visa Subclass 571	Dependents of temporary residents
2013	368	545
2014 as at 1 June	314	383

2. Which colleges and schools are educating these students?

- The Department of Immigration and Border Protection stipulates that students under the expanded residence determination program and the schools they attend should not be identified.
- International students, dependents of asylum seekers, refugees and temporary residents are enrolled across ACT public schools.

3. Are these students eligible for support services such as English as an Additional Dialect, or counselling and other support?

All students enrolled in ACT public schools are entitled to access the same counselling, student welfare and support, careers advice, grievance handling and dispute resolution mechanisms as local students. All students can access English as an Additional Dialect support. Should they require intensive English, they are referred to either the secondary introductory English centre or one of four primary introductory English centres.

4. *Over the last 5 or 10 years, how many of these students have completed year 12?*

Although Education and Training Directorate facilitates the enrolment for dependents of temporary residents, including asylum seekers in ACT public schools, these students are not tracked in isolation from their cohort once they are enrolled. Thus, there is no specific Year 12 completion data available for these students.

The table below indicates the numbers of full fee paying international students on a student visa subclass 571 who have completed their Year 12 studies over the past three years.

YEAR	Year 12 Graduates on a Student Visa Subclass 571
2011	122
2012	108
2013	92
Anticipated 2014	102

5. *What are the funding arrangements for each of the different visa categories?*

Under current policy, temporary residents may apply for fee exemption for their children to attend an ACT public school if they are entering Australia on the following visa subclasses:

- Subclass 309 and 820 – Partner
- Subclass 402 – Training and Research
- Subclass 403 – International Relations Visa
- Subclass 457 – Business and 489 – Skilled Regional
- Subclass 573 – Higher Education and Subclass 574 – Postgraduate Research Sector Subclass 576 – AusAID or Defence Sector

The following table indicates the 2014 international student tuition fees payable by international students on a 571 visa subclass and the full fee paying dependents of temporary residents.

	Preschool	Primary School	High School	College
Tuition Fee Payable	\$3800	\$9900	\$13 300	\$14 800
School Payment	\$2318	\$6010	\$7700	\$8007

Fees are charged on a cost recovery basis.

Approved for circulation to the Select Committee on Estimates 2014-2015

Signature:

Date:

By the Minister for Education and Training, Minister Joy Burch MLA