

To: Ministerial & Executive Services  
From: Educational Standards  
Date: 27 November 2020  
Number: DOC20/1153682

### **SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTIONS – PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE No. 3**

**1. How is the NSW Curriculum Review interacting with the Federal review of the curriculum? Will the NSW curriculum be updated when the Federal curriculum review is announced?**

*Redirected to NESA to respond to.*

**2. Are there any trade schools (as announced by the last Labor Government in 2007) still in operation in NSW? Where are these located? If not, when did these end?**

Yes.

11 Trade Schools were established on school sites.

1. Ballina High School (recent school merger/upgrade and new VET facilities established to replace existing – in operation)
2. Brisbane Waters Secondary College – Woy Woy Campus – Yes in operation
3. Canobolas Rural Technology High School – Yes in operation
4. Chifley College, Bidwill Campus – Yes in operation
5. Colyton High School – Yes in operation
6. Dubbo Senior College – Yes in operation
7. Hunter River High School – Yes in operation
8. Jamison High School – Yes in operation
9. Nambucca Heads High School – Yes in operation
10. Queanbeyan High School – Yes in operation
11. Wyndham College – Yes in operation

**3. Can any vocational education subjects currently count towards an ATAR?**

Subjects must come from the Industry Curriculum Framework syllabuses in order to contribute to the ATAR. There are other vocational subjects available to students, but these do not contribute to the ATAR.

Courses within Industry Curriculum Frameworks (Frameworks) count as Board Developed unit credit for the HSC. Frameworks include an HSC examination which provides the opportunity for students to have this HSC examination mark contribute to the calculation of their ATAR, as a Category B subject, with the Universities Admission Centre. Only one Category B subject can contribute to the ATAR.

ICFs

Automotive  
 Business Services  
 Construction  
 Electrotechnology  
 Entertainment Industry  
 Financial Services  
 Hospitality  
 Human Services  
 Information and Digital Technology  
 Metal and Engineering\*  
 Primary Industries  
 Retail Services  
 Tourism, Travel and Events

\*Metal and Engineering Framework discontinued from 2020

Official Notice 33/19 announced the discontinuation of this Framework from 2020.

Students in the current Year 11 2019 cohort can continue their course in 2020. Provided all requirements of the 240-hour course are met, including the mandatory work placement, these students will be eligible to sit the optional HSC exam. The final exam available for this Framework will be in 2020.

#### **4. Is the Department aware of the number of spaces needed and available for school students in adolescent mental health facilities?**

Based on need as identified by Specialist Support Services, Inclusive Education, 38 classes linked to NSW Health have been established in 11 locations across NSW. The following table shows the location, the number of state-wide ED classes and total capacity supporting adolescents with mental health issues.

<b>Operational Directorate</b>	<b>School Principal Network</b>	<b>School code</b>	<b>School name</b>	<b>Type of school</b>	<b>Number of classes</b>	<b>Total capacity</b>
Metropolitan North	Ryde	5538	Arndell School	SSP	3.0	21
Rural North	Tweed Coast	5573	Caldera School	SSP	2.0	14
Regional North	Glenrock	5738	Kotara School	SSP	2.0	14
Regional South	Campbelltown	5753	Lomandra School	SSP	2.0	14
Metropolitan North	Girraween	5559	Redbank School	SSP	8.0	7
Metropolitan South	Strathfield	5654	Rivendell School	SSP	13.0	91
Metropolitan South	Bondi	5545	Sydney Childrens Hospital School	SSP	2.0	14
Metropolitan South	Parramatta	5751	The Childrens Hospital School	SSP	2.0	14
Regional South	Lake Illawarra South	8906	Oak Flats High School	High School	1.0	7

Rural South and West	Orange	8134	Orange High School	High School	2.0	14
Metropolitan North	Gordon	8435	Turramurra High School	High School	1.0	7

## **5. What data is collected and reported on this?**

The data on the number of state-wide ED support classes, location and capacity is stored in the Support Class database which maintained by Specialist Support Services, Inclusive Education.

## **6. Would a change to require Special Religious Education to be delivered outside of school hours free up more time for curriculum?**

Under the Education Act 1990, time is to be allowed for the religious education of children of any religious persuasion in every public school, where authorised representatives of approved providers are available.

The Education Act 1990 also allows for the provision of Special Education in Ethics classes.

The NSW Curriculum Review reforms will deliver more time for teaching by 2022 by reducing the hours teachers spend on extra-curricular and compliance requirements.

## **7. What impact would universal preschool of 3 and 4 year olds have on the educational levels expected at school?**

Evidence suggests that increasing universal preschool access to include 3 and 4 year olds will have a positive impact on educational performance. Participation in early childhood education can improve school readiness and student achievement. Children who attend a preschool program are less likely to be vulnerable in one or more Australian Early Development Census domains.

The impact of early childhood education on educational achievement at school can be strengthened where there are processes to support transition to school. Continuity of learning across the early childhood education context and school supports successful transitions and is crucial for optimising improved outcomes for children.

## **8. What would be the anticipated cost of providing preschool access in half the public primary schools in NSW?**

Department of Education preschools were established to give priority of access to the most disadvantaged children within identified local communities and complement services run by local government, community based organisations and the private sector.

The Government has invested significant funds through the Start Strong Capital Works Grants Program and the Community Safety Net Program to increase the number of preschool places for children in New South Wales.

There are 1,605 public primary schools in NSW. Ninety-nine of these schools have a preschool with a total of 133 classes. To provide preschool access in half the primary schools in NSW, approximately 700 new preschool classes would be established.

The anticipated cost to establish a Department preschool on a school site is in excess of \$132,000 where existing land and buildings are modified and approximately \$1 million to establish a new Department preschool class. This would amount to costs ranging from approximately \$92.4 million to \$700 million

**9. How many schools offered internet access from their premises during the COVID lockdown period to ensure students without a home connection could still access learning?**

All schools continued to remain open, and continued to provide internet access to students.