

INQUIRY INTO TEACHER SHORTAGES IN NEW SOUTH WALES

Name: Ms Yasmin Catley - Member for Swansea

Date Received: 29 July 2022

Yasmin Catley MP

MEMBER FOR SWANSEA



29 July 2022

Mr Mark Latham MLC
Chair
Portfolio Committee No. 3 – Education

Teacher shortages in New South Wales

Dear Chair,

I write to express the frustrations of teachers and parents from the Swansea electorate who know firsthand the dire impacts that the state's teacher shortages have had on students and staff.

Local teachers have informed me that regardless of the size of their school they are constantly supervising students from other classes because casual staff are not available, or they are asked to cover a class instead of completing their support and intervention roles.

As a result, teachers are working excessive hours per week and are becoming fatigued. Staff are even considering going back to casual teaching because of the excessive workload.

Students too have been negatively impacted by the shortages. I understand that they often have substitute teachers, meaning there is constant disruption to learning and little consistency in academic delivery.

I have even been advised by parents that they have decided to home school their children because their learning was going backwards due to the shortages.

Chronic teacher shortages have been an issue right across NSW for years now. Between 2020 and 2021 alone 10,000 teaching staff left the profession. As such, it is clear that the NSW Government needs to urgently address this crisis, to ensure that our students are receiving the education they deserve.

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission on this issue.

Yours sincerely,

Yasmin Catley MP
Member for Swansea



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