

CORONAVIRUS — DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION — VACCINATIONS

631. Hon TJORN SIBMA to the Minister for Education:

I refer to the Chief Health Officer's amendment to regulations last week which henceforth directs compulsory COVID-19 vaccinations for Western Australian health workers from 1 October.

- (1) What policy or directive currently applies to the vaccination status of all workers, including teachers, education assistants and ancillary staff, within Western Australian primary and secondary schools?
- (2) Noting the vulnerability of children to the virus, is the government considering the implementation of compulsory COVID-19 vaccinations for the above workers before the commencement of term 4 this year?

Hon SUE ELLERY replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question.

- (1) In line with advice from the Chief Health Officer, Department of Education staff are strongly encouraged to be vaccinated. Principals have been advised to assist staff in schools to access vaccinations using a planned approach, including allowing staff time during work time to attend a vaccination clinic. This enables teaching and learning to continue while provisioning the opportunity for staff to be vaccinated.
- (2) Not currently.