

Mr President

On Thursday, 18th September 2014 Hon Sue Ellery asked a question without notice 1003 regarding the Claremont School of Art, I would like to provide further information to my answer.

1 & 2. Yes. The Claremont School of Art has had a licence to use a building on the Freshwater Bay Primary School site. In 2013 the Claremont School of Art was alerted that there would be a need to return these facilities to the school, prior to the lease initially expiring on 31 December 2013. At that time, an extension was provided to the end of Semester 1, 2014.

A further extension of the licence was provided until 30 September 2014 to ensure sufficient time for the Claremont School of Art to seek an alternative premise.

3. The Department of Education has investigated alternative venues but has none available. It should be noted that, the Claremont School of Art is a private organisation and it is appropriate for it to secure its own long term accommodation, independent of the State Government.