

NORTH MANDURAH PRIMARY SCHOOL — INTENSIVE ENGLISH CENTRE

**237. Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN to the Minister for Education:**

I refer to the imminent closure, at the end of term 2, of the intensive English centre at North Mandurah Primary School, which has successfully served the Peel education district for five years.

- (1) Why is this centre to be closed?
- (2) Is it true that the centre was instructed by the Department of Education to not enrol any new students as of December 2009, despite a waiting list of at least seven students?
- (3) What arrangements are in place to cater for the current enrolled students and other students requiring intensive English language support in the Peel education district into the future?
- (4) What additional resources will be made available to local classroom teachers in Peel, who will now be required to cater for these English as a second language students?

**Dr E. CONSTABLE replied:**

(1)–(4) I am sure the member for Mandurah will understand that there are almost 800 schools in Western Australia. I am not aware of these changes at the North Mandurah Primary School. I will look into the questions that the member has asked about North Mandurah Primary School, and I will get back to him about it. All will be revealed in the budget, which will be brought down at two o'clock, but I can assure the member for Mandurah that the government understands the needs of ESL children, and there will be good news in the budget for students with special English language needs and whose second language is English. I undertake to look into that for the member for Mandurah and provide that information as quickly as I can.