

KOOLBARDI ABORIGINAL PRESCHOOL, COLLIE — FUTURE

3057. Mr M.P. Murray to the Minister for Education

In regards to Koolbardi, which is an Aboriginal Pre-School in Collie that supports Aboriginal Children, I ask:

- (a) what is the future of the pre-school;
- (b) will the school continue to operate at its present location;
- (c) what specific programs are being offered;
- (d) will the Indigenous Tutorial Assistance Scheme (ITAS) continue to operate this year;
- (e) how many students are enrolled in the Koolbardi pre-school;
- (f) has the Education Department of Western Australia cut funding for the bus driver; and
 - (i) if yes, how are the three and four year-old children getting to school; and
- (g) if there is no driver for the bus, is the bus being used?

Dr E. CONSTABLE replied:

- (a) The Koolbardi Aboriginal Kindergarten will relocate to the Amaroo Primary School site in late 2010.
- (b) No, refer to answer (a) above.
- (c) The Koolbardi Aboriginal Kindergarten offers a culturally appropriate early childhood learning program that is tailored to meet the needs of Aboriginal children and their families. This includes Nyoongar language and cultural programs.
- (d) Yes. The Indigenous Tutorial Assistance Scheme (ITAS) will continue this year as the Aboriginal Tutorial Assistance Scheme (ATAS) but does not apply to Koolbardi Aboriginal Kindergarten. ATAS provides financial assistance for students from Year 4.
- (e) As at 17 June 2010, there are 17 children enrolled at the kindergarten.
- (f) No, the Department of Education does not allocate funding for bus drivers to schools.
 - (i) Not applicable.
- (g) The school is using their bus on a limited basis to transport children with disabilities to after school activity programs.