

OUTCOMES-BASED EDUCATION - DELAY IN IMPLEMENTATION

321. Mr P.D. OMODEI to the Premier:

The Premier did not answer my last question, and so I ask it again as a supplementary question. Will the Premier take this opportunity to pledge to Western Australian teachers that he will leave the door open for the implementation of the outcomes-based education system to be delayed if the teachers remain unprepared for these changes; and, if not, why not?

Mr A.J. CARPENTER replied:

I have absolutely no reason to believe that it will be delayed. The State School Teachers' Union of WA did not talk to me in terms of delay; it talked to me about the readiness of the teachers to implement the change. I do not believe there will be a requirement to delay the process. I have no expectation that the broader group of teachers will demand that the process be delayed. That would serve no purpose. We must tell people what we want to do. I went through this process when debating raising the school leaving age. We must tell people what we want to do and how we want to implement it. We must decide how we can work together to achieve that outcome. That is what we have done, and I am confident that the right result will be achieved.