

Yvette Berry MLA

Deputy Chief Minister

Minister for Education and Early Childhood

Minister for Homes and New Suburbs

Minister for Sport and Recreation

Member for Ginninderra

RESPONSE TO QUESTION ON NOTICE**Questions on Notice Paper No 5****11 April 2025****Question No. 280****Ms BARRY MLA:** To ask the Minister for Education and Early Childhood

1. Given that the Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability made a number of recommendations in Chapter 7 relating to the provision of equal access to mainstream education, and the ACT Government's response, in July 2024, largely accepted, or accepted in principle those recommendations, has the Government settled on a definition of "inclusive education"
2. What is the timeframe for implementation of the recommendations in relation to inclusive education.
3. Has the work to amend the Australian Professional Standards for Teachers and the National Teacher Workforce Action Plan been completed.
4. Has the proposed new Inclusion Transition and Careers Coach role been implemented.

Ms Berry MLA - The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

1. The ACT Government defined inclusive education in *Inclusive Education: A Disability Inclusion Strategy for ACT Public School 2024-2034* (Inclusive Education Strategy). The strategy states: The ACT Government's vision is that every child and young person is welcomed, valued, has a sense of belonging and can access quality education designed to meet their needs at their local school. In ACT Public Schools, 'inclusive education' means that all children and young people can learn and participate in education on the same basis as their peers. This also means that the views of children and young people, and their families, are considered in designing learning options to meet their needs.

2. The ACT Government has outlined a timeframe for implementing its inclusive education reforms through the 10-year Inclusive Education Strategy. The Strategy's First Action Plan details the actions that will be completed from 2024 to 2026. These actions are the initial steps to strengthen inclusion for children and young people with disability in ACT Public Schools and will be followed by two further Action Plans in subsequent years.
3. Work to amend the *Australian Professional Standards for Teachers* and *National Teacher Workforce Action Plan* requires national progression. This work is yet to be completed.
4. The Inclusion Transition and Careers Coach commenced in term 1, 2024 and has worked to implement the role in Tuggeranong colleges since this time.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Ms Yvette Berry MIA
Education and Early Childhood

Date: 02/05/25

This response required 2hrs to complete, at an approximate cost of \$207.69.