

PATJARR COMMUNITY — REMOVAL OF SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND TEACHER

2199. Hon Helen Bullock to the Minister for Energy representing the Minister for Education

- (1) Can the Minister confirm that there have been no school lessons at all for the school age children living at Patjarr during the first term of this current school year?
- (2) For the school age children who are now living at Patjarr is the Minister of the view that the promised two hours per day of School of the Air will can be utilised to make up for the time missed during term one?
- (3) Will the Minister consider reversing the decision that has removed a professionally trained teacher from this Community?
- (4) If no to (3), why not?

Hon PETER COLLIER replied:

- (1) No, this is not true. The three children resident at Patjarr since the beginning of the 2010 school year have attended lessons at the Blackstone Campus of the Ngaanyatjarra Lands School for periods of time during term one, 2010, because they were visiting the Blackstone Community at that time.
- (2) Students from Patjarr who visited the Blackstone Community attended lessons at the Blackstone Campus during Term one. When the children reside at Patjarr they participate in lessons online through the Kalgoorlie School of the Air. The online delivery of lessons to the three children of Patjarr is only one component of their schooling. Lessons and education programs are also provided through books and packaged materials. Lessons provided to these students will take account of any remediation strategies necessary to enable the children to progress.
- (3) The three children at Patjarr do have access to professionally trained teachers through Kalgoorlie School of the Air and are supervised by a locally employed Education Assistant.
- (4) School of the Air exists to provide for situations where there are small numbers of students. This is the case for the small numbers of students that may be resident for periods of time at Patjarr.