

AGRICULTURAL AWARENESS PROGRAM — PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENTS

4251. Mrs A.K. Hayden to the minister representing the Minister for Education and Training:

I refer to the answer to Question on Notice No. 193 asked in the Legislative Council by Hon Colin de Grussa to the Minister for Education and Training, and I ask:

- (a) Now that 6 months have passed, can the Minister provide an answer for how many students participated in the Agriculture Awareness program at Kiara College and Kelmscott Senior High School over the last five years; and
- (b) can the Minister advise what both departments have developed to replace this program to provide agricultural awareness to students?

**Mr P. Papalia replied:**

The Agriculture Awareness program is designed to give primary school students an awareness of where food and fibre come from. There is no impact on the agriculture programs run at either school.

(a)

Calendar Year	Kiara College	Kelmscott SHS
2013	1 892	3 810
2014	2 347	3 023
2015	2 789	2 944
2016	1 948	3 918
2017	2 179	2 585

(b) The Departments of Education, Training and Workforce Development, and Primary Industries and Regional Development are partnering to develop a program to raise the profile of the wealth of career opportunities and future pathways related to fish, food and fibre production, and hence increase student interest and aspiration in this vital sector of our economy.

The Department of Education has introduced a Primary Extension and Academic Challenge (PEAC) program with a dedicated focus on agriculture. This was successfully piloted in 2018 and expansion is planned for 2019.

The Western Australian Curriculum: Technologies became compulsory for all schools from Pre-primary to Year 8 in 2018, and optional in Years 9 and 10. Food and Fibre Production context is a context within the subject area of Design and Technologies. There are numerous curriculum resources for both the primary and secondary years, that focus on food and fibre production. These are promoted to teachers across the State through the Department's online teacher communities.