

EDUCATION AND TRAINING — VACSWIM AND INTERM SWIMMING

4206. Mr A. Krsticevic to the minister representing the Minister for Education and Training:

Can the Minister please provide a breakdown on the number of VacSwim and Interm Swimming enrolments for each of the past four years:

- (a) how many overseas-born students attended the swimming lessons; and
- (b) please list which country attendees originated from and the numbers from each country:
 - (i) provide a breakdown of male and female attendees from each country?

Mr P. Papalia replied:

- (a) The VacSwim program is open to all 5 to 17-year-olds from across metropolitan and regional areas. The Interm program is open to all Pre-primary to Year 7 students in Western Australian public schools across metropolitan and regional areas. Catholic and independent schools may participate in the program on a user-pays basis.

When enrolling in a public school, parents are asked to provide details on the country of birth of the child. This is a non-mandatory field. The Department of Education does not centrally collect this data for the purposes of the VacSwim and/or Interm programs.

The Department VacSwim enrolment form asks parents to identify if English is a second language. This is also a non-mandatory field.

The Department translates its digital and printed material concerning VacSwim programs into 14 languages and distributes this material to schools with significant numbers of students with a language background other than English. Translated materials include posters and postcards.

In 2017/18, 56 998 students participated in the VacSwim program.

In 2017, 180 217 students participated in the Interm program statewide.

- (b) Not applicable.