

Question on Notice

No. 1739

Asked on 23 October 2019

MR D LAST ASKED MINISTER FOR EDUCATION AND MINISTER FOR INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS (HON G GRACE)

QUESTION:

With reference to the advice by the last remaining vacation care facility in Bowen (The Beach Hut) that they will close in early November, leaving parents in Bowen without this valuable service—

Will the Minister advise what steps the government will take to ensure Bowen is provided with after school and holiday care, especially given school holidays are now just seven weeks away?

ANSWER:

Outside School Hours Care (OSHC) services are a much-needed support for families in providing a safe and stimulating environment for children before and after school, and during school holidays.

The Government, through the Department of Education, took immediate steps to undertake a procurement process to find a new Outside School Hours Care (OSHC) provider when it became aware that The Beach Hut would cease operating.

As a result, a new provider has been identified to take over the OSHC service at Queens Beach State School.

The department is working with this provider to ensure the approvals required under national legislation are in place as soon as possible and the service can begin operation.