



Hon Peter Collier MLC
Minister for Education; Aboriginal Affairs; Electoral Affairs
Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council

Our Ref: 34-32541

Mr Paul Papalia MLA
Member for Warnbro
PO Box 8443
SECRET HARBOUR WA 6169

RECEIVED
14 MAY 2014

BY:

Dear Mr Papalia *Paul*

Thank you for your letter dated 14 April 2014 regarding weather protection for the transportable classrooms at Makybe Rise Primary School.

I have been advised that the Department of Education provides verandahs for Kindergarten and Pre-primary transportable classrooms due to the range of activities that are carried out in these external spaces. Early childhood children generally spend a much higher proportion of time learning through external play. These transportable buildings generally stay at schools for longer periods and are not moved around the State as often as general learning area transportable classrooms.

As you would be aware, transportable classrooms are provided primarily to address accommodation shortfalls in schools due to increased enrolments. Once enrolments decrease, they are then relocated to another school. As you will appreciate, providing a verandah as part of every relocation of a transportable classroom would not be viable.

The Department has advised that enrolment numbers at Makybe Rise Primary School are expected to decrease with the opening of the new Smirk Road Primary School in January 2015, together with the transfer of Year 7 students to Baldivis Secondary College in 2015. As a consequence, a significant number of transportable classrooms will be removed at that time.

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

Kind regards

Hon Peter Collier MLC
MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

- 6 MAY 2014