



**Queensland
Government**

16 SEP 2011

Office of the
**Minister for Education and
Industrial Relations**

Ms Emma Hartnell-Baker
Read Australia
Email: info@readaustralia.com

Dear Ms Hartnell-Baker

Thank you for your emails dated 6 and 8 August 2011 to the Honourable Cameron Dick MP, Minister for Education and Industrial Relations, regarding *Read Australia*. The Minister has asked me to respond on his behalf. I apologise for the delay in replying.

The Minister is aware of your correspondence with the Department of Education and Training regarding the Ready Readers program, literacy and numeracy coaches, and reading coaches for the Preparatory (Prep) Year and Year 1.

Be assured that the Department is committed to ensuring that each and every student has the literacy they need to meet the challenges of the 21st century. Literacy is an important focus for state schooling as it is integral to effective learning in all curriculum areas and across all phases of learning.

There is strong evidence to support the assertion that teachers should draw on a range of approaches to the teaching of literacy, particularly literacy in the curriculum from Prep to Year 12. The Department will continue to support this approach in state schools.

As you are aware the Department does not mandate, endorse, or approve individual programs or resources. The decision about the use of programs and resources is the responsibility of each school principal. Individual schools select programs and resources for their school in consultation with the school community, to ensure the specific needs of their students are met.

Should you wish to discuss this matter further, I invite you to contact Dr Suzanne Innes, Acting Assistant Director-General, Teaching and Learning Branch, by email at suzanne.innes@deta.qld.gov.au or on telephone (07) 3235 4780.

Thank you for bringing your views on this matter to the Minister's attention.

Yours sincerely

DAVID SMITH
Chief of Staff
Office of the Hon Cameron Dick MP
Minister for Education and Industrial Relations

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