

14/251937

**ACT4kids (Abused Child Trust for Kids)**

In addition, teachers from Royal Children's Hospital School deliver educational programs at the ACT4Kids (Abused Child Trust for Kids) at Wooloowin through the provision of 1.0 full time equivalent Teacher and 20 hours per week Teacher Aide time. The Royal Children's Hospital School Principal supervises the delivery of the outreach educational program at the Early Education Program and the achievement of planned educational outcomes for children. This is funded as an outreach program to respond to children who have experienced trauma and/or abuse. Children deemed to be developmentally at risk are referred to the Wooloowin Centre by Child Safety Services, Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services. Community referrals are arranged through the Abused Child Trust.

**Barrett Adolescent Centre Special School**

The Barrett Adolescent Centre Special School is a Band 7 special school providing educational programs to adolescents being treated through both inpatients and outpatients. Until 2014 it was located at The Park – Centre for Mental Health, Wacol. As a transition arrangement, it has operated adjacent to Yeronga State High School during 2014.

**Tennyson Special School**

Tennyson Special School is a Band 6 special school which caters specifically for children with severe behavioural adjustment and mental health issues who cannot be supported successfully in mainstream primary school settings. The school provides a service to all state schools in Queensland, though due to capacity limitations, support is usually limited to schools in the near Brisbane area. Up to ten students can be enrolled at Tennyson at any one time. Placement at the school rarely extends beyond six months.

**Regional Services**

There are 9.7 teachers based in general paediatric wards and mental health acute inpatient wards in regional hospitals at Ipswich, Logan, Townsville, Cairns, Toowoomba, Nambour, Rockhampton and Robina. They are supported by 139 Teacher Aide hours weekly. These teachers are supported in a variety of different ways and supported by Principals of neighbouring state secondary or special schools.

14/251307

**ATTACHMENT 3: PROPOSED MODEL FOR DELIVERY OF EDUCATIONAL SERVICES**

<b>NAME OF SCHOOL</b>	<b>Lady Cilento Children's Hospital School</b>	<b>Proposed new Special School</b>
Background	Renamed Mater Hospital School and Royal Children's Hospital School	Proposal to amalgamate the Barrett Adolescent Centre Special School with the existing Tennyson Special School to establish a statewide special school to support students referred with severe health conditions.
Enrolments	All current students at the Mater Hospital School and school aged students from Royal Children's Hospital School	All other school aged students of Queensland receiving health and/or mental health care as long term inpatients of local hospitals other than Lady Cilento Children's Hospital School and students with complex mental health issues and/or significant behavioural issues
Proposed Staffing	Principal Deputy Principal	Principal Deputy Principal Outreach programs Deputy Principal School programs
	21.1 Full time equivalent teachers 275 Teacher Aide hours per week	21.3 Full time equivalent teachers 352 Teacher Aide Hours per week

The departmental review of services proposes that from the current resources managed within Metropolitan Region, two schools coordinate service delivery for the provision of educational programs for students receiving health care services provided by Queensland Health. This requires:

1. Renaming of the Mater Hospital Special School and relocating components of the Royal Children's Hospital Special School to form the Lady Cilento Children's Hospital School to provide educational services for students enrolled in the hospital.
2. Subject to Ministerial approval, amalgamation of the Barrett Adolescent Centre Special School with the Tennyson Special School to establish a single Special School which will operate across the state to support school aged students receiving health and/or mental health care as long term inpatients of local hospitals other than Lady Cilento Children's Hospital. This Special School would be responsible for the:
  - i. Provision of educational services for students with mental health concerns receiving Tier 2 and 3 treatment provided by Queensland Health in the Brisbane area.
  - ii. Provision and/or coordination of the delivery of educational programs for adolescent students previously enrolled at the Barrett Adolescent Centre who require the most intensive and long term educational support
  - iii. Coordination of educational services for students with mental health concerns receiving Tier 2 and 3 treatment provided by Queensland Health in areas outside of the Brisbane Central Business District through increasing access to current local resources and services and providing additional capacity to meet the needs of such students.
  - iv. Coordination of the work of regional staff based in general paediatric wards and mental health acute inpatient wards in regional hospitals at Ipswich, Logan, Townsville, Cairns, Toowoomba, Nambour, Rockhampton and Robina.
  - v. Provision of educational services to students aged 14 and above who are patients of the Royal Brisbane Women's Hospital as well as those students admitted to the Adolescent Mental Health, Acute Inpatient Ward.
  - vi. Provision of support to staff working with the *ACTforKids Abused Children's Trust*, as currently provided through the RCHS and in Townsville.
  - vii. Students with severe behavioural and mental health issues who would continue as previously to be enrolled on a sessional basis at Tennyson Special School.

Tennyson

19665/73

SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES:

RE: ESTABLISHMENT OF TENNYSON SPECIAL SCHOOL

Ministerial approval has been obtained for Tennyson State School to become Tennyson Special School.

The school will have two (2) teachers and will therefore be a Class 4 school. Furniture and requisites have been ordered.

The following action is required:

1. The Accountant to note. The school will be a Class 4 special school.
2. The Staff Officer to note for necessary action re establishment of a new special school.
3. The Chief Clerk to note for advice to any other sections and departments concerned.

Approved

[Redacted Signature]

[Redacted Signature]

7.3.73

7.3.73

13-  
22/3/73

Action taken by Lunn.  
Section to advise branches & officers concerned.

[Redacted Signature] 11.4.73

B/c. D.S.E.S.: The dept. is at present holding \$76.74 Project Club Balance  
\$2.41 Equipment Fund "  
\$20.96 P.C. Fund "

Mr. B. Cahill has advised he supports the use of the P.C. balance by the Special School.

Your direction, please, as to payment of the above funds.

[Redacted Signature] 11.4.73



TELEGRAPHIC CODE  
ADDRESS "STATELIN 611"

Department of Health  
Brisbane

24th November, 1962.

Dear Mr. Gilmour,

Herewith paper concerning the establishment of an adolescent psychiatric service. I referred to this paper in a recent discussion with your Deputy.

I would appreciate the opportunity to discuss the proposal to establish a school and the employment of teachers in this new facility before the proposal is submitted to Cabinet. I will be in touch with you to make an appointment to discuss this matter.

Yours faithfully,



(P. G. Livingstone)  
Director-General of Health  
and Medical Services.

Mr. C. Gilmour,  
Director-General of Education,  
Department of Education,  
Old Treasury Building,  
Queen Street,  
BRISBANE. 4000.

*Copied. SI Sp. EA.  
SI, S. ...  
P.S.O.*

*For report ...*



*3.12.62*

*Return original to DSp-EL*

*Judgment & special education -  
your information*

*Nov 21 1984 202*

*New Spec letters  
Co-ord Intell H'cap.*

*F 3 0*

MEMO TO: THE HONOURABLE THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION  
(THROUGH THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF EDUCATION)

FROM: CO-ORDINATOR, EDUCATION OF INTELLECTUALLY HANDICAPPED CHILDREN

TOPIC: ESTABLISHMENT OF BARRETT CENTRE SPECIAL SCHOOL AND RED HILL  
SPECIAL EDUCATION UNIT

1. The Education Unit at Red Hill will be located adjacent to the Halwyn Centre at Red Hill and will cater for profoundly handicapped children who reside at the Halwyn Centre.
2. The Barrett Centre Special School will be located at the Wolston Park Hospital, Wacol and will provide education for disturbed adolescents who are both out-patients and in-patients of the hospital.

It is anticipated Red Hill Unit will open with a Teacher-in-Charge in January. Barrett Centre Special School will have an acting Principal taking up duties from 29th January, 1985.

RECOMMEND:

THAT approval be given for the establishment of Barrett Centre Special School and with an acting Principal (Class 4) and Red Hill Special Education Unit with a Teacher-in-Charge, from the beginning of the 1985 school year.

APPROVED  
Minister Education

W.G. ROBERTSON  
CO-ORDINATOR  
EDUCATION OF INTELLECTUALLY  
HANDICAPPED CHILDREN

29th January, 1985

IF APPROVED:

1. Records to register.
2. Co-ordinator, Education of Intellectually Handicapped Children to note and advise relevant personnel.

*Noted*

*Please advise relevant personnel -  
use list*

*Stamp: 21-1-85*

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Reference Number:

HE4 / 71242

TO:

DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL EDUCATION

FROM:

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES

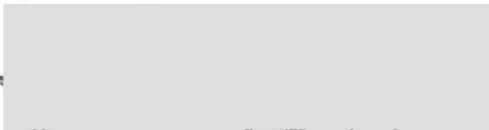
TOPIC:

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRINCIPAL AT THE BARRETT CENTRE

1. The Department of Health conducts a psychotherapy program at the Barrett Centre for adolescents considered in need of 'time-out' from regular high school settings. That program complements a similar one for primary-aged students at the Royal Children's Hospital and closely parallels treatment of adolescents with behavioural adjustment problems in a number of hospital schools operated by the Division of Special Education. Most of the students are treated at the Barrett Centre for an extended period (usually up to six months) and during that time their educational needs must be carefully met in collaboration with the therapy program supervised by medical officers. Part of the responsibility of the Special Education program at the Barrett Centre is liaison with the student's home school.
2. For the above reasons, the appropriate administrative structure for the Special Education program at the Barrett Centre is considered to be a Special School. A Principal could give the necessary professional leadership to the teachers on site, in collaboration with the medical treatment which must take pre-eminence, and could adequately liaise with the student's school and parents. The need for experienced secondary teachers in the program could easily be met by appointments from the Regional Offices as for any other school. Liaison with nominated high schools could also be established at the discretion of the Region and the Division.
3. If an Acting Principal is appointed now, the position could be advertised in 1985 along with other promotions in the Division of Special Education. Mr. Malcolm Santer is considered the most appropriate of the existing teachers on site who could act as Principal for the time being without obligation for the future.

RECOMMENDED:

THAT Mr. M. Santer (Employee Number 110124) be appointed Acting Principal of the Barrett Centre School (Location Code 02/3442) from 29th January, 1985.



Handwritten signature and date: 17/12/84

NOEL R. CULBERT  
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR  
SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES

14th December, 1984

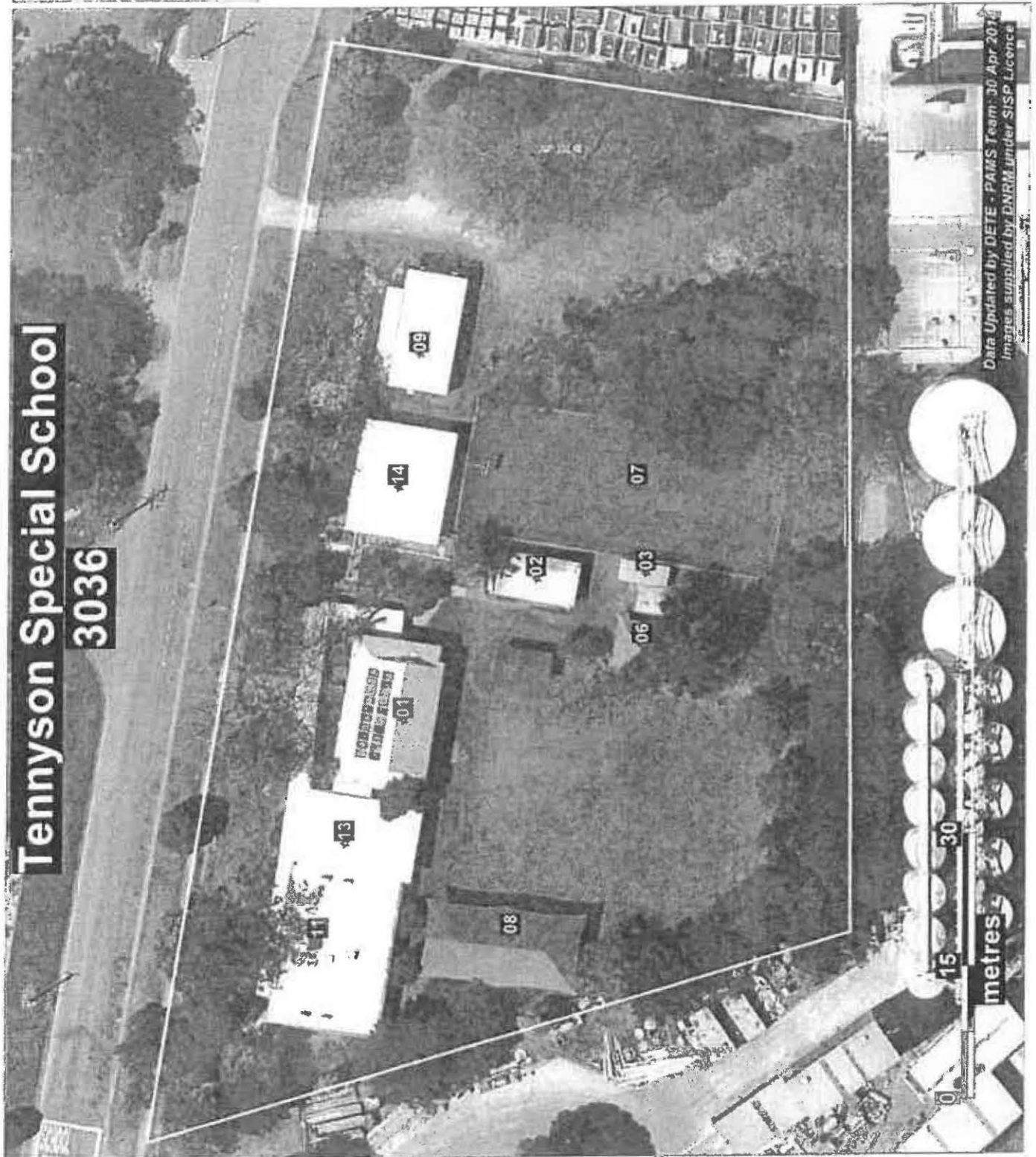
If Approved:

1. Records to register and return to Special Education.
2. Acting Assistant Director, Special Education Services, to note.
3. Copy to Regional Special Education and Guidance Officer, Brisbane

Handwritten initials: R/S/84

Handwritten initials: G. Roberts 1984

Ref. No	Local Name	NEW_FLG
01	ADMIN-A BLOCK	3036-5000A
02	TOILET BLOCK	3036-500TB
03	GROUND'S TENNIS SHED	3036-50TCS
06	SAND PIT SHADE COVER	3036-GSPSC
07	GROUND'S TENNIS COURT	3036-G0TCO
08	GROUND'S STR-SHADE PL	3036-GSHAD
09	MULTI-PURPOSE BDG	3036-5MPUR
11	C BLOCK	3036-5000C
13	GROUND'S SH STRUC HAN	3036-SSSHC
14	LEARNING CENTRE	3036-500LC
15	CHANGING OVAL	3036-G0MPO



## Briefing Note

The Honourable Kate Jones MP  
 Minister for Education  
 Minister for Tourism, Major Events,  
 Small Business and the Commonwealth Games

**Action required: For Approval**

**Action required by: N/A**

**Routine** – the Minister's advice is sought regarding the current operation and future model of the Barrett Adolescent Centre Special School and Tennyson Special School.

**SUBJECT: THE CURRENT OPERATION AND FUTURE MODEL OF THE BARRETT ADOLESCENT CENTRE SPECIAL SCHOOL AND TENNYSON SPECIAL SCHOOL**

### Summary of key objectives

- To seek advice from the Minister in relation to the current operation and future model of the Barrett Adolescent Centre Special School and Tennyson Special School reflective of the Queensland Labor Party's pre-election commitment to build a new facility for young people with serious mental health conditions, including an integrated specific-purpose school.

HEALTH  
to build

### Key issues

- Barrett Adolescent Centre Special School (BACSS) is a Band 7 specific purpose school which provides educational programs for secondary aged students with significant and complex mental health conditions. It was previously based at the Barrett Adolescent Centre located at The Park – Centre for Mental Health (The Park Centre), providing educational services for both inpatients and outpatients of the Barrett Adolescent Centre.
- Queensland Health (QH) managed the Barrett Adolescent Centre and provided mental health support for these students in an onsite residential facility at The Park Centre. As a result of changes to the QH service delivery models, the residential service to these young people at The Park Centre was closed at the end of 2013. Accordingly, BACSS was relocated from The Park Centre.
- The school currently operates from the Tennyson Special School (TSS) site at 38 Lofter Street, Tennyson, providing both onsite and outreach services for students with severe mental health conditions.
- TSS is a Band 6 special school which caters specifically for primary aged children with severe behavioural issues, including mental health conditions, who are difficult to support successfully in mainstream primary school settings. While the school is not currently accepting new enrolments, the six former students of TSS are being supported in mainstream schools with considerable support from TSS staff.
- QH has realigned its Brisbane children's hospitals and state-wide mental health services. As some programs are located on QH facilities, DET, in response is considering the implementation of a new model of educational support using current resources to deliver educational services to students with complex mental health or behavioural conditions.
- In November 2014, the former Minister for Education, Training and Employment approved the commencement of community consultation on the proposed amalgamation of BACSS and TSS. As the approval was not gazetted prior to the election being called, the official consultation period did not commence.

from  
hosp?  
later?



- 7. Prior to the 2015 State Government election, the Australian Labor Party committed to build a new residential facility in south-east Queensland for young people with serious mental health issues, including an integrated specific-purpose school (Attachment 1).
- 8. The Minister's direction is sought regarding the current operation and future model of the BACSS and TSS. The Department has identified four potential options:
  - **Option 1: (Recommended Option)** Continuation of services of BACSS and TSS until such time as QH's plan to build a new facility for young people with serious mental health conditions, including an integrated specific-purpose school is known, with a review of the services provided by TSS to be undertaken by the Metropolitan Region;
  - **Option 2:** Amalgamation of BACSS and TSS under the management of the Lady Cilento Children's Hospital School;
  - **Option 3:** Return to the previous model of operation for BACSS and TSS where students may be enrolled at BACSS and TSS, with consideration of future enrolment applications; and
  - **Option 4:** Closure of the BACSS and TSS.

*Two diff cohorts*

9. The potential implications of each option are outlined in further detail as follows:

**Option 1 (Preferred option):** Continuation of services of BACSS and TSS in their current form until such time as QH's plan to build a new facility for young people with serious mental health conditions, including an integrated specific-purpose school is known, with a review of the services provided by TSS to be undertaken by the region.

*What does this mean*

10. This is the Department's preferred option until the future model of service delivery is confirmed by QH. In the meantime, DET will continue to work with QH to develop an appropriate model of educational support for adolescents with serious mental health issues.

11. [redacted] The school also supports (on site and outreach) a number of students who are enrolled at a base school. The school currently supports [redacted] students [redacted]

12. From the commencement of 2015, TSS staff are providing intensive support to the students who were previously enrolled and receiving their educational programs at TSS. These students are now enrolled at base schools.

13. The Metropolitan Region considers that the model of service previously delivered at TSS may not reflect current research and best practice to support students with complex behaviours. It is proposed to undertake a review of practices implemented by TSS. A review of educational services to provide best practice may necessitate additional training of staff to provide optimal outcomes for students.

**Option 2: Amalgamation of BACSS and TSS under the management of the Lady Cilento Children's Hospital School**

14. On 1 December 2014, The Lady Cilento Hospital School opened at the new hospital at South Brisbane. The school is the amalgamation of the former Mater Hospital School and the Royal Children's Hospital Schools. It is a Band 9 school offering educational programs to students from Prep to Year 12 for inpatients, outpatients and family members of hospitalised patients.

15. During Term 1, 2015 and as at 27 April 2015, the school had enrolled over 1100 students. In accordance with the medical needs of the students, they remain enrolled at their base school and access the hospital school while in hospital. Enrolments will therefore fluctuate in accordance with the students' individual health needs.

16. Should this be the preferred option, a possible retitle of the BACSS and TSS to sit under the Hospital School would need to be considered.

17. From a financial perspective, the resources presently allocated to BACSS and TSS would potentially need to be transferred under the management of the Hospital School.

18. This option may involve the transfer of staff and distribution of resources to other sites. A review of the management and reporting relationships under the Hospital School would be required.

19. Likewise, the requirement for staff base location accommodation for BACSS and TSS staff would also need to be reviewed. Should BACSS and TSS services be delivered as an outreach model, the TSS facility may be surplus to requirements.

20. If this option is progressed, a community consultation period of six months must occur prior to a proposed amalgamation of schools. This would require publication of a public notice in the Government Gazette, signalling the commencement of community consultation regarding the proposal. A draft gazettal notice is at **Attachment 2**.

21. The Department would then brief the Minister on the outcomes of the consultation, with a recommendation for future operation.

**Option 3: Return to the previous model of operation for BACSS and TSS where students may be enrolled at BACSS and TSS, with consideration of future enrolment applications.**

22. Reverting to the previous arrangements would involve BACSS being a specific purpose school providing onsite educational services to students with complex mental health conditions. TSS would be a specific purpose school providing onsite educational and behavioural support for students whose complex behaviours are difficult to support in a mainstream setting.

23. As parents largely support the operation of both BACSS and TSS on specific purpose sites, this is unlikely to attract negative media attention. However, should BACSS services be reinstated as previously, this may be impacted by the proposed QH facility, whereby BACSS services may be considered for relocation within the new facility. A factor in this consideration would be the location of the new QH facility, which may be in another region.

24. In addition, BACSS is currently operating from the TSS site, as TSS students are being supported in mainstream schools. There would be considerable financial and infrastructure implications, should the Department operate both schools as previously. Either BACSS or TSS operations would require an additional location, as there is not sufficient infrastructure at the TSS site to accommodate both school requirements. Additionally, it would be inappropriate for secondary aged students with complex mental health conditions to share the same school site as primary aged students with complex behaviours.

25. As outlined above, the Metropolitan Region considers that the model of service previously delivered at TSS may not reflect current research and best practice to support students with complex behaviours. A review of educational services to provide best practice may necessitate additional training of staff, to provide optimal outcomes for students.

**Option 4: Closure of the BACSS and TSS**

- 26. QH's cessation of residential services for adolescents at The Park Centre at the end of 2013 resulted in significant media interest. The former Minister also received considerable correspondence in relation to BACSS (the school which formerly operated on the QH facility at The Park), despite educational services continuing to be offered by BACSS staff at another site and through outreach services. Closure of the BACSS may result in negative media reporting. <sup>TSS</sup>
- 27. Likewise, although TSS has not closed and the students formerly enrolled at TSS are receiving support at mainstream schools, the Premier and Minister have received correspondence from [redacted] who are not satisfied with the current arrangements. [redacted] indicate their preference for the services as they were delivered in 2014, i.e. at the TSS site as a whole school day program.
- 28. It should be noted that student enrolment at TSS was not intended to be on a permanent basis but rather a short-term intervention model, where required by students' specific circumstances.
- 29. Should Option 4 progress, the closure of the schools would need to be managed in accordance with legislation, including gazettal and community consultation. The transfer of resources presently allocated to BACSS and TSS would also need to be considered along with the transfer of staff and resources to other sites.

**Financial Implications**

- 30. DDG Corporate Services has noted that depending on the option selected there may be costs associated with additional facilities.

**Background**

Barrett Adolescent Centre Special School

- 31. [redacted] is still being supported at their base school. The school is currently not enrolling new students while awaiting future direction from the Minister; however, the school continues to support [redacted] existing and referred students aged between 13 and 18 years as indicated in the table below. Specific details of the educational service provided to these students is indicated in Attachment 3.

Educational services are provided by BACSS to:	Number of Students
Students physically attending BACSS on a part time basis	[redacted] *
Students receiving an outreach service only	[redacted] *
Total	[redacted]

- 32. Additionally, a number of students have requested and are currently being considered for educational support. These requests will be prioritised by BACSS staff.
- 33. BACSS is resourced as follows:
  - 5.3 FTE Teachers ( including the Band 7 Principal);
  - 108.2 Teacher Aide hours per week;
  - Fractional equivalents for the roles of Guidance Officer, Social Welfare Officer and Administrative Support Officer; and
  - Of this resource, 1.3 FTE Teacher and 24 Teacher Aide hours per week are currently being utilised at the Lady Cilento Children's Hospital School to support their day program for adolescents with severe mental health conditions.

Tennyson Special School

34. TSS is resourced as follows:

- 4.10 FTE Teachers (includes the Band 6 Principal);
- 83.4 Teacher Aide hours per week;
- Schools Officer; and
- Administration Officer.

35.

36. There is a recognised need within the region for services to provide high level support for students presenting with significant behavioural difficulties, while maintaining safe environments for all other persons.

37. The region has developed a working party to review the support needs of primary aged students with complex and challenging behaviours, including resourcing and models of service delivery in line with direct school-based resourcing. The working party met on 7 May 2015.

38. It is recognised that the students enrolled in TSS at the end of 2014 were receiving a disproportionately high level of available resourcing, in comparison with other students with complex behaviours who were enrolled in local schools throughout the state.

39. If it is determined that TSS students are to be educated at the TSS site as in previous years, rather than in mainstream schools, the region would seek to adjust the TSS model of service to provide for:

- agreed maximum periods at TSS before students are transitioned back to their local schools;
- a review of behaviour management strategies employed at TSS to ensure best practice;
- a review of facilities including withdrawal rooms, by appropriate departmental personnel, to ensure the health and safety of staff and students in line with the departmental procedure, 'Safe, Supportive and Disciplined School Environment'; and
- training of staff to ensure that appropriate strategies are employed in line with departmental policy.

**Right to information**

40. I am of the view that the contents or attachments contained in this brief **are not suitable** for publication as the Minister's decision is as yet unknown; therefore this information is not in the public domain.

**Recommendation**

That the Minister:

- note the current models of operation for the Barrett Adolescent Centre Special School (BACSS) and Tennyson Special School (TSS);
- note the information provided in relation to four options for future service delivery of the BACSS and TSS; and

Approve one of the following options:

- Option 1:** continuation of services of BACSS and TSS until such time as Queensland Health's plan to build a new facility including an educational service for affected students, is known (preferred option); or
- Option 2:** amalgamate the BACSS and TSS under the management of the Lady Cilento Children's Hospital School, including the commencement of consultation around the proposed amalgamation and the attached public notice (Attachment 2) to be published in the Government Gazette, signalling the commencement of community consultation regarding the proposal; or
- Option 3:** return to the previous model of operation for BACSS and TSS with consideration of best practice; or
- Option 4:** closure of the BACSS and TSS.

NOTED

APPROVED/NOT APPROVED  
ENDORSED/NOTED

**DON WIL**  
 Senior Policy Advisor  
 Office of the Hon Kate Jones MP  
 Minister for Education  
 Minister for Tourism, Major Events, Small  
 Business and the Commonwealth Games

**KATE JONES MP**  
 Minister for Education  
 Minister for Tourism, Major Events, Small  
 Business and the Commonwealth Games

29.09.15

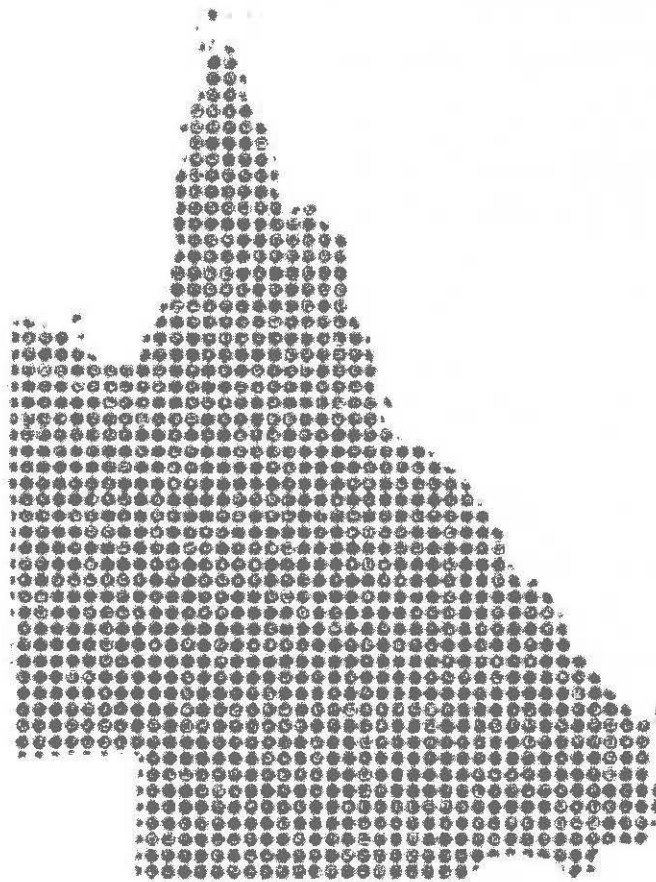
10.11.15

Minister's comments

[Empty box for Minister's comments]

Action Officer Christine Marsh A/Principal Education Officer, Metropolitan Rgn Tel: [Redacted]	Endorsed by: Kym Amor Director Regional Sves, Metropolitan Rgn Tel: [Redacted] Mob: [Redacted] Date: 4/09/2015	Endorsed by: Mark Campling Regional Director, Metropolitan Rgn Tel: [Redacted] Mob: [Redacted] Date: 4/09/2015
Noted by: David O'Hagan A/DDG, Corporate Services Tel: [Redacted] Mob: [Redacted] Date: 22/05/2015	Endorsed by: Patrea Walton DDG, State Schools Tel: [Redacted] Mob: [Redacted] Date: 4/09/2015	Endorsed by: Dr Jim Watterstor DG, DET Tel: [Redacted] Mob: [Redacted] Date: 12/9/15

# Rebuilding intensive mental healthcare for young people



 [facebook.com/APalaszczukMP](https://facebook.com/APalaszczukMP)  
 [twitter.com/AnnastaciaMP](https://twitter.com/AnnastaciaMP)  
 [AnnastaciaPalaszczukMP.com.au](https://AnnastaciaPalaszczukMP.com.au)



## Rebuilding intensive mental healthcare for young people

A future Labor Government will expand services for young people with serious mental health issues, including the establishment of a Tier 3 facility with an integrated school in south-east Queensland.

The services will be based on the successful approach used to help young people overcome severe mental illness at the former Barrett Centre at Wacol for the past 20 years.

Labor's rebuilding of adolescent mental health services will also include an expanded range of services in Townsville to service families in northern and regional Queensland.

### The need for more services

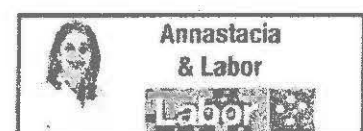
Mental health services for adolescents in Queensland need to expand. There is increasing evidence of an unmet need for services for mental illness, particularly among young people<sup>1</sup>. Yet Premier Campbell Newman and the Liberal National Party have closed the only high-level (Tier 3) residential facility in Queensland – one with an integrated school – that provides intensive care for young people with serious mental health issues.

While community-based services situated close to where young people live and go to school are best suited for many mental health problems, more severe problems require more intensive care. For some such problems, short-term admission to an acute mental health hospital ward can be beneficial.

However, there is increasing evidence that placing children in an adult mental health ward is detrimental to their care and their safety. Some hospitals are now providing dedicated mental health beds for young people. While this can assist overcoming short-term crises, other longer-term care is required to help young people overcome severe mental health problems. This was the role of the Barrett Centre in Queensland.

The Barrett Centre was the only facility that offered specialist care for up to 12 months for both in-patients and day patients with severe mental health problems, including those at high risk of self-harm. The centre offered a specific-purpose school with a highly trained team of teachers and support staff providing recovery-orientated education integrated into individual treatment plans. The centre was also the only youth mental health facility in the state providing care to the maximum level (level six) within the Queensland Health Clinical Services Capability Framework (CSCF).

Unfortunately, Health Minister Lawrence Springborg decided to close the Barrett Centre in 2013 and has not replaced it.



## Rebuilding intensive mental healthcare for young people

### Our solution

Consistent with the Queensland Plan for Mental Health 2007-2017<sup>2</sup> and the report of the Expert Clinical Reference Group<sup>3</sup> on the Barrett Centre, Labor will build a new facility to replace the ageing buildings inappropriately located on the grounds of the secured adult mental health facility at Wacol.

The facility will offer up to 22 beds and a day program for a further 20 patients. Previous plans for a new centre at Redlands will be reviewed to consider the best option for the site of the new facility.

The new centre will have both step-down accommodation for graduated independent living and family accommodation to ensure adolescents can effectively return home as part of their recovery.

As well as building a new Tier 3 facility in south-east Queensland, Labor will provide expanded day services in a number of locations and will review the role of Assertive Mobile Youth Outreach Services and the Tier 2 sub-acute residential programs currently proposed by the Children's Health Queensland Hospital and Health Service.


There is also a need to consider the care of young adults aged between 18 and 24 with developmental issues that may make adolescent-focused mental health programs more appropriate than adult mental health services.

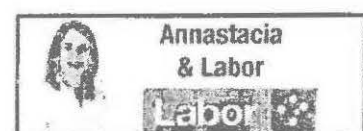
Labor acknowledges the important role of community organisations in providing medium-term supported accommodation and care programs for young people with mental health and drug and alcohol problems. There is scope within the Queensland Plan for Mental Health to expand the range of these services, in partnership with local hospital and health services.

Labor proposes to expand the number of acute mental health hospital beds for adolescents and the associated adolescent community residential facility in Townsville, to service families in northern and regional Queensland. This residential facility will accommodate young patients with severe mental illness as they transition to and from the new Barrett Centre. It will also support local families from northern Queensland to ensure adolescent patients discharged from hospital have a local step-down care option before returning home and accessing day programs.

 facebook.com/APalaszczukMP

 twitter.com/AnnastaciaMP

 AnnastaciaPalaszczukMP.com.au





## Rebuilding intensive mental healthcare for young people

### Benefits

The Barrett Centre offered a model of care that included residential multidisciplinary recovery-orientated treatment and rehabilitation of up to 12 months, with an integrated, specific-purpose school. This program also offered a flexible day program for those young people unable to function in a regular secondary school but able to live at home.

For adolescents up to the age of 17 years at high risk of self-harm and suicide, the Barrett Centre was a proven model of care that saved lives. The Barrett Centre was the children's intensive care ward for mental illness in Queensland. It is an essential component of a statewide mental health service for young people with different levels of severity and disability in their illness.

### LNP turns back on mental health services

The Newman LNP Government closed the Barrett Centre at the end of 2013 without providing an equivalent level of service at an alternative location, as recommended by the Expert Clinical Reference Group and agreed by the West Moreton Hospital and Health Service<sup>4</sup>.

The LNP has:

- failed to adequately consult with parents, patients and staff of the Barrett Centre in relation to the change in services to vulnerable young people
- failed to provide the promised "wrap-around care". Three Barrett patients have taken their own lives since the closure of the centre
- reduced funding for public community health services
- cut grants to non-government organisations providing specialist health services in the community
- demonstrated an inability to properly manage specialist health services, particularly with regard to mental health.

### Our commitment

A future Labor Government will build a new residential facility in south-east Queensland for young people with serious mental health issues, including an integrated specific-purpose school.

Labor will also expand services to co-located step down and transition accommodation and associated services in Townsville for young people in northern and regional Queensland.

## Rebuilding intensive mental healthcare for young people

### Endnotes

<sup>1</sup>AIHW (2013) *Mental health services in brief 2013*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare. [Accessed December 2013] <http://www.aihw.gov.au/publication-detail/?id=60129544726>

<sup>2</sup>Queensland Government (2008) *Queensland Plan for Mental Health 2007-2017*. Brisbane: Queensland Government. [Accessed December 2013] [http://www.health.qld.gov.au/mentalhealth/abt\\_us/qpfmh/08132\\_qpfmh07.pdf](http://www.health.qld.gov.au/mentalhealth/abt_us/qpfmh/08132_qpfmh07.pdf)

<sup>3</sup>Expert Clinical Reference Group. *Barrett Adolescent Strategy. Proposed Service Model Elements – Adolescent Extended Treatment and Rehabilitation Services*. 2013. Unpublished.

<sup>4</sup>West Moreton Hospital and Health Service. *Expert Clinical Reference Group Recommendations. Barrett Adolescent Strategy*. July 2013 [Accessed December 2013] <http://www.health.qld.gov.au/westmoreton/docs/bac-recommendations-201307.pdf>



Queensland Labor was founded under the shade of the Tree of Knowledge in Barcaldine in 1891. Since then, we have remained the party of equality, opportunity, fairness and reform. We will listen to the community to build a better Queensland.

**ATTACHMENT 2**

**PROPOSED SCHOOL AMALGAMATION NOTICE**  
*Education (General Provisions) Act 2006*

Under s.18 of the *Education (General Provision) Act 2006*, the following schools are proposed for amalgamation:

<b>School name</b>	<b>Region</b>	<b>Contact details</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Barrett Adolescent Centre Special School</li> <li>• Tennyson Special School</li> </ul>	Metropolitan Region	Mr Mark Campling Regional Director Ph: [REDACTED] E: [REDACTED]

Consultation regarding this proposed amalgamation of schools has now commenced. Members of the school communities are invited to contact the Regional Director for further information.

**KATE JONES MP**

Minister for Education

Minister for Tourism, Major Events,

Small Business and the Commonwealth Games

CABINET-IN-CONFIDENCE

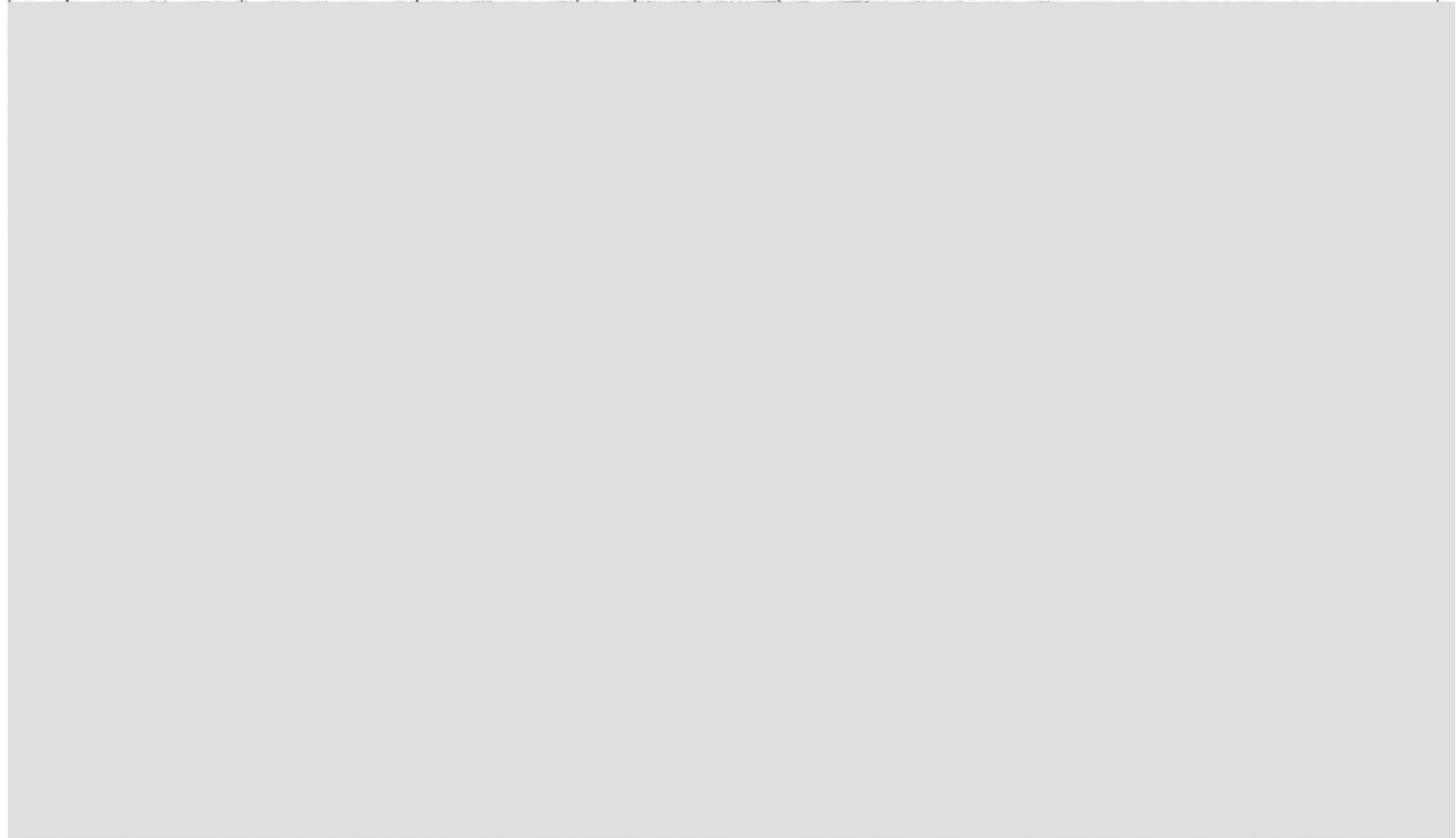
**Barrett Adolescent Centre Special School – table of student support (redacted) as at 14 August 2015 (provided by the A/Principal, BACSS)**

However, the school is currently supporting young people both onsite at Tennyson and through its outreach educational services.

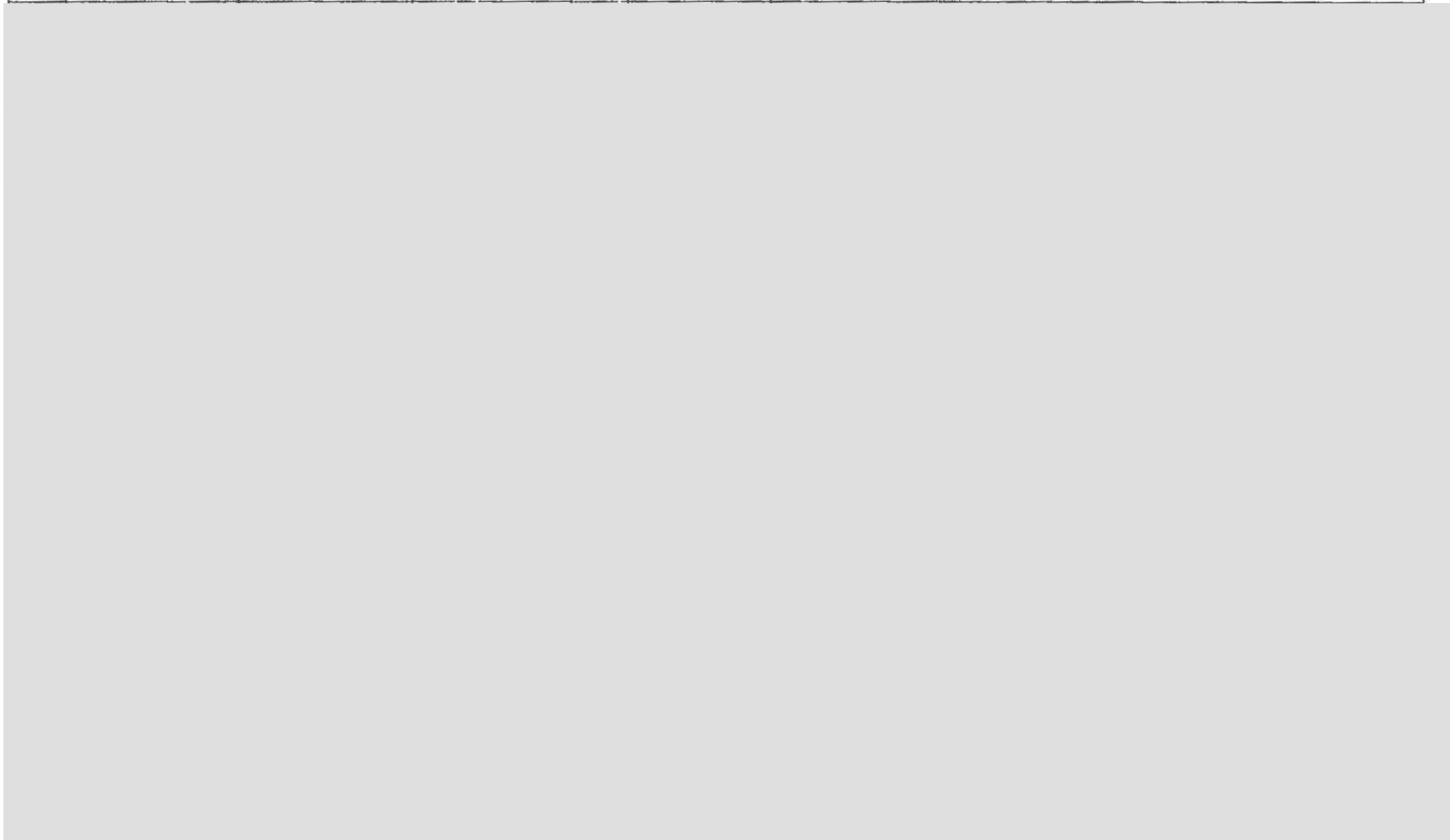
<b>Students physically attending BACSS on a part time basis – students</b>
<b>Outreach service only – students</b>

	<b>Resident in suburb</b>	<b>Currently enrolled at</b>	<b>Last school</b>	<b>Yr</b>	<b>Age: Yrs/mths</b>	<b>Support provided by Barrett Adolescent Centre Special School</b>
[Redacted Content]						

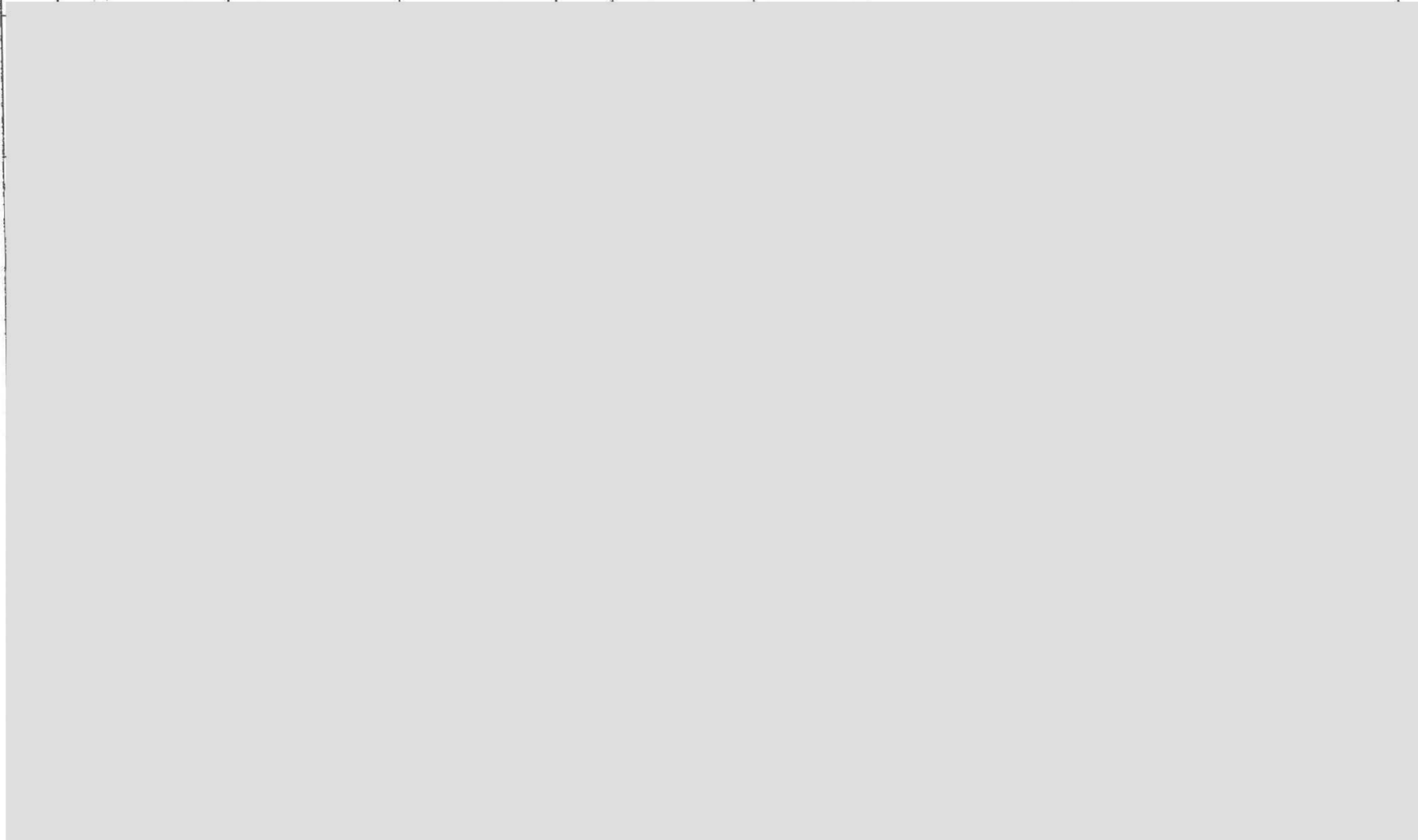
	<b>Resident in suburb</b>	<b>Currently enrolled at</b>	<b>Last school</b>	<b>Yr</b>	<b>Age: Yrs/mths</b>	<b>Support provided by Barrett Adolescent Centre Special School</b>
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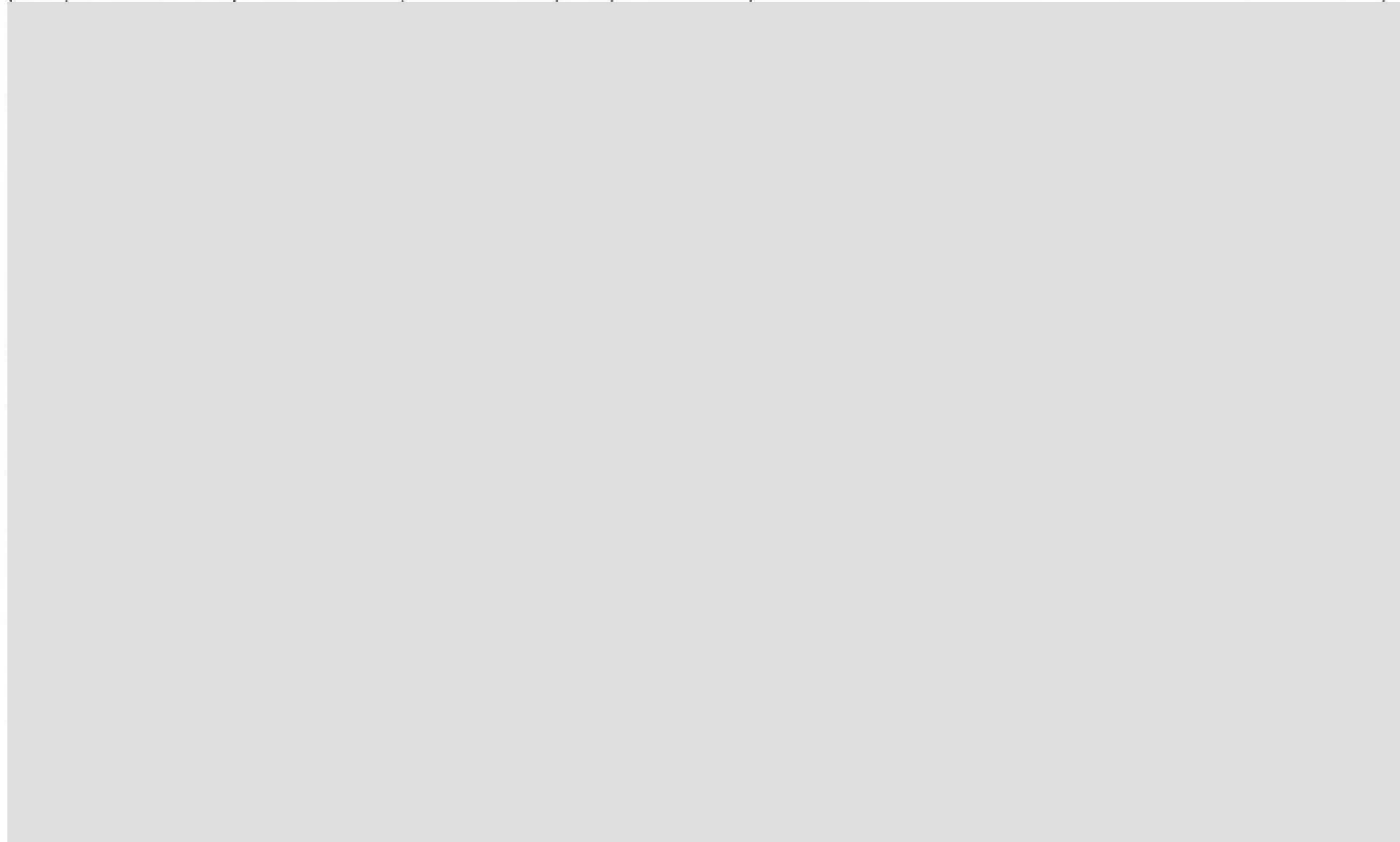
	<b>Resident in suburb</b>	<b>Currently enrolled at</b>	<b>Last school</b>	<b>Yr</b>	<b>Age: Yrs/mths</b>	<b>Support provided by Barrett Adolescent Centre Special School</b>
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Resident in suburb	Currently enrolled at	Last school	Yr	Age: Yrs/mths	Support provided by Barrett Adolescent Centre Special School
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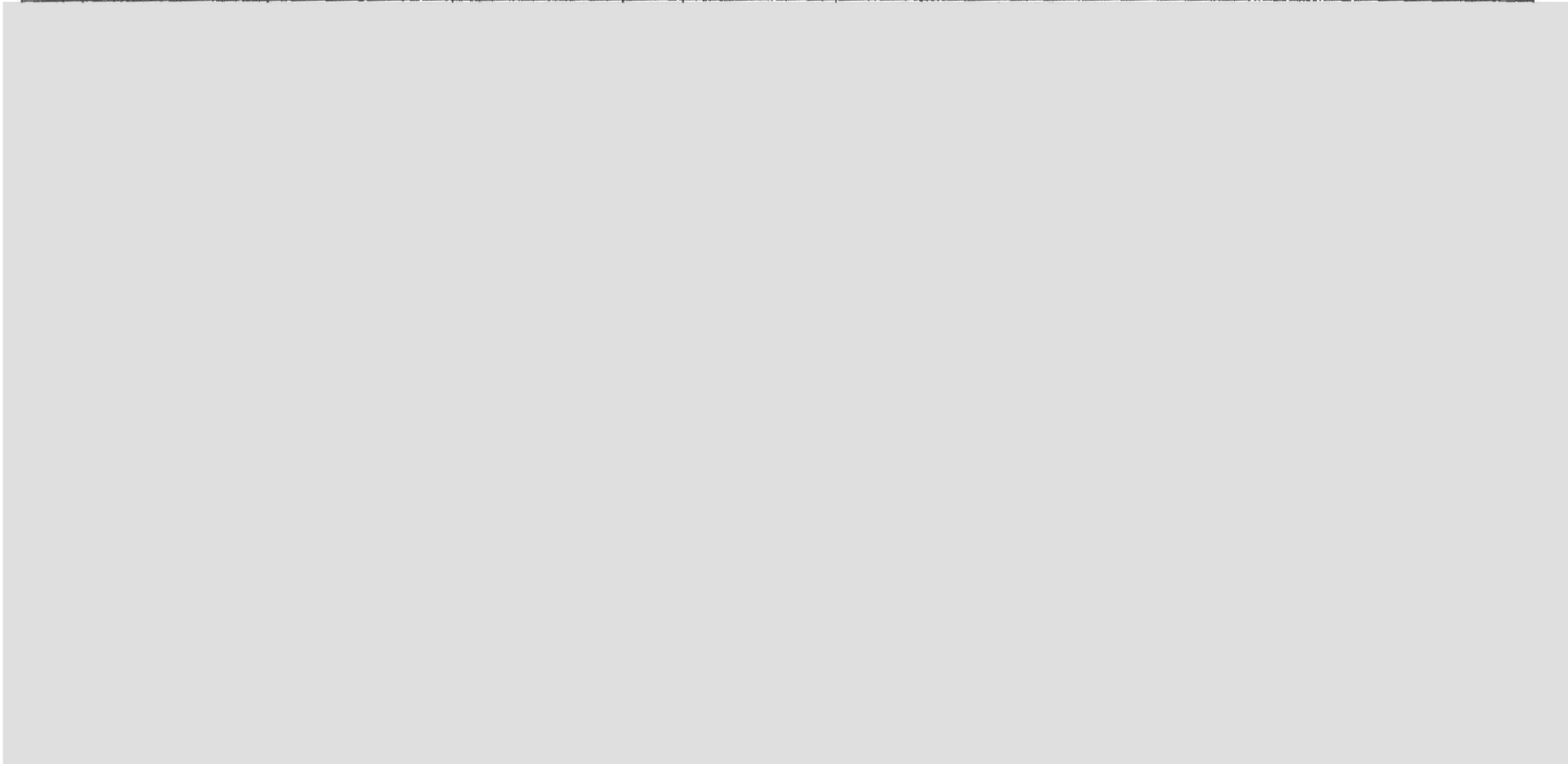


	Resident in suburb	Currently enrolled at	Last school	Yr	Age: Yrs/mths	Support provided by Barrett Adolescent Centre Special School
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	<b>Resident in suburb</b>	<b>Currently enrolled at</b>	<b>Last school</b>	<b>Yr</b>	<b>Age: Yrs/mths</b>	<b>Support provided by Barrett Adolescent Centre Special School</b>
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