

## Questions taken on notice and further information agreed to be supplied at the hearings

Portfolio:	Education
Witness:	Secretary, Department of Education and Training, Ms Jenny Atta
Committee member:	Mr Danny O'Brien MP
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### Question:

Mr O'BRIEN: Are you able to give us an idea—there are 240 schools so far that have been closed—how many of those would have been where you took that step as DET ahead of DHHS getting involved?

### Answer:

Decisions on school closures and reopenings throughout the coronavirus pandemic have been informed by the advice and directions of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

From 19 July 2020, a protocol was implemented by DHHS and DET (Department of Education and Training) to support the health and safety of staff and students. This process ensured that following a reported case, schools were immediately closed as a precautionary measure for an initial 24 hours while DHHS verified the case and confirmed associated health actions. From this point the majority of closures were initiated by DET, with DHHS verifying positive cases and confirming required actions for the school.

163 government school campuses were closed as a precautionary measure by DET under the protocol agreed with DHHS.

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Portfolio:	Education
Witness:	The Hon. James Merlino
Committee member:	Mr Danny O'Brien
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### Question:

Mr O'BRIEN: Could we have on notice ... the number of secondary students who have tested positive as well as primary students at specialist or specialist developmental schools, ... childcare or kindergarten, ... and then likewise the same data for teachers at all of the above.

### Answer:

#### Early Childhood Education and Care Services

The number of confirmed COVID-19 cases of children and staff who attend Victorian early childhood services as at 21 August 2020 is as follows:

	Child cases	Staff cases
Early Childhood Education and Care Services	97	110

#### Schools

The number of confirmed COVID-19 cases of students and staff who attend Victorian government, Catholic and Independent schools as at 21 August 2020 is as follows:

School type	Student cases	Staff cases
Primary	102	45
Primary/Secondary*	174	55
Secondary	199	31
Special	10	6
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>485</b>	<b>137</b>

\*Data provided listed numbers of cases only, so it is not possible to determine if the cases at Primary/Secondary schools are primary or secondary students.

These cases do not reflect transmission in schools and are a very small proportion of overall student (0.05%) and staff (0.13%) numbers.