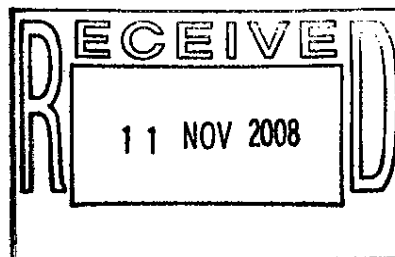


Premier

Level 11, Executive Building, 15 Murray Street, Hobart TAS
GPO Box 123, Hobart, TAS 7001 Australia
Ph +61 3 6233 3464 Fax +61 3 6234 1572
Email Premier@dpac.tas.gov.au Web www.premier.tas.gov.au

**10 NOV 2008**

Hon Ruth Forrest MLC
Independent Member for Murchison
PO Box 104
WYNYARD TAS 7325

Dear Ms Forrest ,

Thank you for your letter of 7 October 2008 about the need for school principals and staff to be aware of the intent of section 5 of the *Education Act 1994* with regard to requests by parents for delayed entry.

I have noted your concerns about occasions where principals and staff have not appeared to act in accord with the intent of section 5. I am advised that work is already underway to ensure that departmental staff are aware of and understand the options available under section 5.

- The intent of the Act has been clarified with the General Managers of each Learning Service.
- General Managers will be ensuring that all principals are aware of their obligations in working with parents who seek delayed entry as outlined to you in my letter of 1 October. They will also remind principals that no psychological testing is required in relation to delayed entry.
- The admissions policy page on the Department's website will be redeveloped to be more explicit about the delay option.

Again, thank you for writing to me on this matter.

Yours sincerely

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Bartlett".

David Bartlett MP
Premier
Minister for Education and Skills