WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE EDUCATION, SPORT AND CULTURE COMMITTEE BY THE DEPUTY OF ST. JOHN

ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 1st MARCH 2005

Ouestion

Would the President inform members –

- (a) how the breakfast club at Les Landes School, which is run from 7.30 a.m. daily, is being funded, including any additional premises and staff costs; if this impacts on the school budget, is the Committee satisfied that this represents value for money and best use of funds, and would he also explain whether the club is open to all the school's children, and, if not, why not? and,
- (b) does the Committee operate a policy regarding the extended day care of children at school, and, if so, does this acknowledge the value of home life and the parent's responsibility to provide it?

Answer

- (a) The breakfast club at Les Landes School is funded by parental contributions. 15 places are available. Only 12 children actually take advantage of the provision. Any child can be considered for a place.
- (b) The Committee does not, at present, have a policy regarding the extended day care of children at school. Schools are, however, strongly encouraged to work in partnership with parents in the best interests of children. In constructive partnerships, the value of both home and school life, as well as the responsibilities of parents and school staff, are clearly understood by all partners. Such partnerships can lead to the development of creative and supportive projects such as homework clubs, community associations, parenting groups and breakfast clubs. The Committee is supportive of these initiatives because of the benefits they bring to children.