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**1068. Mrs D van der Walt (DA) to ask the Minister of Basic Education: to ask the Minister of Basic Education:**

Whether, since the adoption of the National Development Plan, her department increased state funding and support to ensure universal access to two years of early childhood development exposure before Grade 1; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

**Response**

As the majority of 4-year olds attend pre-Grade R in Early Childhood Development (ECD) Centres, the responsibility of funding is still with the Department of Social Development.  The Department of Basic Education will only be responsible for this age group, once the ECD programme has been relocated from the Department of Social Development to the Department of Basic Education.