

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CHIEF MINISTER
BY DEPUTY R.J. WARD OF ST. HELIER
QUESTION SUBMITTED ON TUESDAY 4th MAY 2021
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 11th MAY 2021**

Question

For how long does the Chief Minister expect that he will be required to perform the functions of Minister for Children and Education; and is there a date by which he will commit to ensure that there is a dedicated Minister for Children and Education in post?

Answer

I am currently discharging the functions of the Minister for Children and Education under Article 27(2)(a) of the States of Jersey Law 2005 which states 'The Chief Minister may, during the temporary absence or incapacity of a Minister or a vacancy in the office of Minister', '(a) personally discharge the functions of that Minister'.

The existing delegations of functions for this portfolio (enacted via MD-ESC-2021-0002) remain in effect and these provide for Deputy Scott Wickenden to discharge all the functions of the Minister, and for Deputy Trevor Pointon to carry out functions specifically related to CAMHS. I have full confidence in Deputy Wickenden to give the portfolio the full attention it deserves, and I will provide further updates as and when that is possible.

Members will recall my statement issued on the 24th March referred to a decision that Deputy Maçon is not currently capable of fulfilling his Ministerial duties. To protect the privacy of all individuals concerned, I am unable to provide further details at this time.