

THE FAIRBRIDGE SOCIETY,

KINGSLEY FAIRBRIDGE FARM SCHOOL,
PINJARRA, WESTERN AUSTRALIA

PINJARRA, 29th May 1951.

The Under Secretary for Immigration,
Lands Department,
PERTH

Dear Sir,

Re. the questionnaire submitted on behalf of Mr. John Moss, I submit the following brief answers.

Section C. Q.8. The accommodation, furnishing and equipment have all been inspected by appropriate authorities and have been passed as suitable. We are at all times conscious of our obligation to provide the best and as opportunity arrives we will improve them. At present we are in the midst of a programme of extensions and improvements to our living and catering buildings.

Q.9. The Fairbridge system is based on the cottage family where a cottage mother is in charge of twelve boys or girls. The cottage mother is responsible for the care and supervision of her family. She is under the direct guidance of a Head Matron and the Principal.

She has too the experience of a trained nurse to guide her in matters of health and hygiene.

The practice of mealing at present is that the cottage mother prepares breakfast each day and tea at weekends in her cottage. All other meals are cooked and served in the Main Dining Kitchen and Dining Hall under the supervision of an experience caterer.

Q.10(a). The discipline of the children is in the hands of the cottage mother, again under the guidance and supervision of the Head Matron and Principal. It is based on kindness and firmness. Corporal punishment is always the last resort - and it has so far been seldom necessary.

(b) Yes, as far as possible. It is always our aim to foster the individual and as accommodation, equipment and staffing improves so further opportunities will be given.

(c) Yes. Arrangements are made for children to make contacts with normal families during school vacations, when invitations are offered and accepted to spend the holidays with friends in and around the City or at Pinjarra, where some of the children are invited home by school friends.

(d) As for C. But for long Christmas vacation we have our holiday buildings at Mandurah, where the children spend at least a happy month by the seaside.

Q.11 (a) & (b) - Education is in the hands of the State Education Department. The primary school (up to 12 +) is at the Farm itself. Post primary education is at the Pinjarra Junior High School, where children can take the "Junior" examination (normally in the 15th year).

Further education depends on the ability and

aptitude of the individual and may be provided at District High Schools.

A system of training for farm work is being developed at the Farm School.

(c) - At present 42 children are attending the Pinjarra High School and 1 is in training for nursing in a Government Hospital.

Q.12 - General. Minor ailments are attended to by our qualified Sister at our own hospital. The Pinjarra Doctor is called upon where the Sister considers it necessary.

If the doctor wants the case under his supervision the child is admitted to the Murray District Hospital at Pinjarra & where specialist treatment is necessary the child is transferred to the Childrens Hospital in Perth.

Dental. Regular inspections of all children's teeth are made by Smith and Smith of Perth and treatment given where necessary at his visits to the School or at the surgery in Perth.

Optical. On the recommendation of the local doctor or the Schools Medical Officers, children are taken to specialists in Perth.

Immunization against diphtheria, Tetanus, etc., are in the hands of the local doctor.

Yours faithfully,

Sd. E. S. Healey,
ACTING PRINCIPAL.