



EDUCATION AND TRAINING COMMITTEE – MEDIA RELEASE

From Mrs Jan Kronberg MLC, Chair

29 November 2013

The Victorian Parliament's Education and Training Committee today called for public input into its inquiry into approaches to homework in Victorian schools, focusing on the impact on student learning.

"This important inquiry will look into elements such as evidence supporting the value of homework, the benefits to individual students' learning, the contribution to discipline and other life skills, and the engagement of parents in student learning" said the Committee's Chair, Jan Kronberg MLC.

In examining current approaches to homework, the Committee will be considering matters such as:

- the application of and access to technology outside of the classroom/school as a tool to reinforce learning;
- differences across primary and secondary school and the sectors;
- approaches in Indigenous and culturally and linguistically diverse background communities;
- individual versus team homework;
- conceptual versus applied and relevance to curriculum;
- integration into how teachers help students learn;
- and assessment; reporting and feedback methods.

The Committee's inquiry will also look forward, and will consider the future of homework in Victorian schools – including the balance between reinforcing what has been learnt in the classroom with time to undertake extracurricular activities and to spend time with family.

It will also consider differentiated approaches for primary and secondary schools and the nature and time dedicated to homework to facilitate best student learning in different communities.

"Mrs Kronberg said that "The debate on the effectiveness of homework as an educational tool is not new but this important inquiry will clarify the current approaches in a Victorian context and will provide insights into best practice into the future."

The Committee is interested to hear from schools and school communities, teachers, students, parents and anyone else with an interest in the impact on learning of homework.

Mrs Kronberg urged all interested individuals and organisations to make a submission to the Inquiry.

The closing date for submissions is 14 February 2014.

The Inquiry's Terms of Reference and information about how to make a submission to the Committee are available on the Committee's website at www.parliament.vic.gov.au/etc.

MEDIA CONTACTS:

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