

**Victorian Government Response to the  
Parliamentary Inquiry into approaches to homework in Victorian schools**

The Victorian Government thanks the Education and Training Committee for its report following the *Parliamentary Inquiry into approaches to homework in Victorian schools*. It also acknowledges the contributions of a range of representatives including leading academics, representatives from peak bodies, parents, students, schools and communities through submissions and public hearings. The findings of the report provide valuable insights.

Broadly, the Committee's report found that homework practice varies in schools across Victoria and the quality of the homework rather than the time spent on homework has the most impact on student learning outcomes. The report recognises that there is limited research and quantifiable evidence regarding the impact and effectiveness of homework to improve student attitudes to learning and student achievement.

The Department of Education and Training is committed to supporting schools by providing an evidence-based approach to improving student learning outcomes. The report's key findings and recommendations provide a strong foundation for future action which can be used to build an evidence base to inform policy and approaches to homework in Victorian schools and strengthen learning opportunities for all Victorian students.

The report's recommendation that homework guidelines be reviewed is therefore timely. The role of technology in providing access to additional opportunities for learning, catering for different learning styles and addressing disadvantage will be examined as part of a broader review of national and international research that will be commissioned by the Department of Education and Training.

The key role of schools as an asset within their communities is acknowledged by the Victorian Government's election commitments and the government's investment in education. Linking with relevant services, clubs, associations and community groups is one strategy that schools may employ to meet the needs of each community and offer a wider range of opportunities for families to engage in their child's learning.

The Victorian Government is committed to establishing Victoria as the Education State. As part of a comprehensive and balanced curriculum within Victorian schools, homework is seen as one way of supporting and fostering lifelong learning and connecting families with the learning of their children.