

National English Forum Success

The Academy of Humanities and the four peak professional bodies for English and Literacy teaching see Initial Advice Paper as a positive way forward for Australian students and teachers.

The National Curriculum Board and Professor Peter Freebody are to be congratulated on a highly productive forum on a National Curriculum for English, held in Melbourne on Friday 17 October 2008.

There was a positive response among English and literacy educators from around the country to Professor Freebody's Initial Advice Paper on the National English Curriculum. Its emphasis on knowledge about language, an informed appreciation of literature, and growing repertoires of English usage provides a way forward for the subject English. It also acknowledges the rich traditions and the diverse ways in which English is taught.

We affirm our broad agreement with the content of the Initial Advice Paper. We welcome the commitments made to equity and diversity in improving learning standards for all students and believe that the directions provided will ensure breadth and depth in the National English Curriculum.

We look forward to working together, in collaboration with Professor Peter Freebody and the National Curriculum Board, as the process moves through to the writing and implementation of the curriculum.

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Australian Association for the Teaching of English



experts in primary literacies



Australian Literacy Educators' Association