

FEEDBACK FORM

Comments on the proposed amendments to the *Education Act 1972* and *Children's Services Act 1985* are invited from all interested parties, including parents, students, staff, governing councils, service providers, government agencies, training bodies, unions and the wider community.

Feedback received will inform the development of a draft Bill to be introduced into the South Australian Parliament during 2009 to enact legislation in relation to our education and early childhood development services.

Please return this feedback form by the close of business on 5 December 2008 by post to:

**Legislation Reform Unit
Minister for Education
Minister for Early Childhood Development
c/- GPO Box 778
ADELAIDE SA 5001**

* Please add additional pages as necessary

Name _____

Address _____

Organisation
(if applicable) _____

Please tick if you want your response to remain confidential.

A LITTLE BIT ABOUT YOU

If this is an individual response -

Are you a:

- Parent
- Student
- Community Member
- School Principal
- Teacher
- Preschool Director
- Preschool Staff Member
- Other Early Childhood Development Service Director
- Other School Staff Member
- Other Education, Care or Early Childhood Development Service Staff Member
- Non-Government Agency/ Organisation Representative
- Academic
- Government Agency Representative
- Governing Council Member
- Other – please specify

If this is a group response -

You represent a:

- Government School
- Government Preschool
- Non-Government School
- Non-Government Preschool
- Child Care Centre
- Schooling Authority
- Government Department
- Early Childhood Development Service Association
- Parent Association
- Integrated Education and Early Childhood Development Service
- Professional Associations
- Employee Association
- Employer Association
- Statutory Board
- Other – please specify

PROPOSAL ONE - A single Act

What are your views on:

- 1.1 Establishing a new integrated general provisions Act that sets out general administrative provisions which underpin early childhood development and education in South Australia?

- 1.2 Including in this integrated general provisions Act core principles that underpin and guide the operations and functions of early childhood and education in South Australia?

PROPOSAL ONE - A single Act (Cont...)

- 1.3 Core principles within a new integrated general provisions Act reflecting birth to the end of schooling provision of services and which build on those contained in the current Children's Services Act?

PROPOSAL TWO - Ministerial responsibilities

What are your views on:

- 2.1 A new integrated general provisions Act assigning appropriate Ministerial responsibilities regarding early childhood development and education in South Australia?

PROPOSAL THREE - The Department

What are your views on:

- 3.1 A new integrated general provisions Act providing for and prescribing the purpose and operations of a government department with responsibility for early childhood development and education services?

PROPOSAL FOUR - The Chief Executive

What are your views on:

- 4.1 A new integrated general provisions Act which establishes a single Chief Executive position to oversee the department responsible for early childhood development and education and in South Australia?

PROPOSAL FIVE - Annual reporting

What are your views on:

- 5.1 A new integrated general provisions Act requiring a single annual report on all aspects of the administration of the Act and the department responsible for early childhood development and education?



- 5.2 Requiring that an education and early childhood development annual report be provided to Parliament within a prescribed period of time?



PROPOSAL SIX - Consultation and advice

What are your views on:

- 6.1 A new integrated general provisions Act establishing common advisory and consultation provisions for early childhood development and education in South Australia?

- 6.2 Advisory and consultation provisions in a new integrated general provisions Act being enabling and flexible while enshrining stakeholders' and the wider community's right to be consulted on relevant matters and provide advice on relevant matters?

PROPOSAL SEVEN - Restructure

What are your views on:


- 7.1 A new integrated general provisions Act enshrining the right of local communities to participate in decision-making about restructure of their early childhood development and education services?

- 7.2 A new integrated general provisions Act containing guiding principles and provisions that better support the restructure of education and early childhood development services in the interests of improving outcomes for children, students and their communities?

PROPOSAL EIGHT - Compulsory schooling and education

What are your views on:

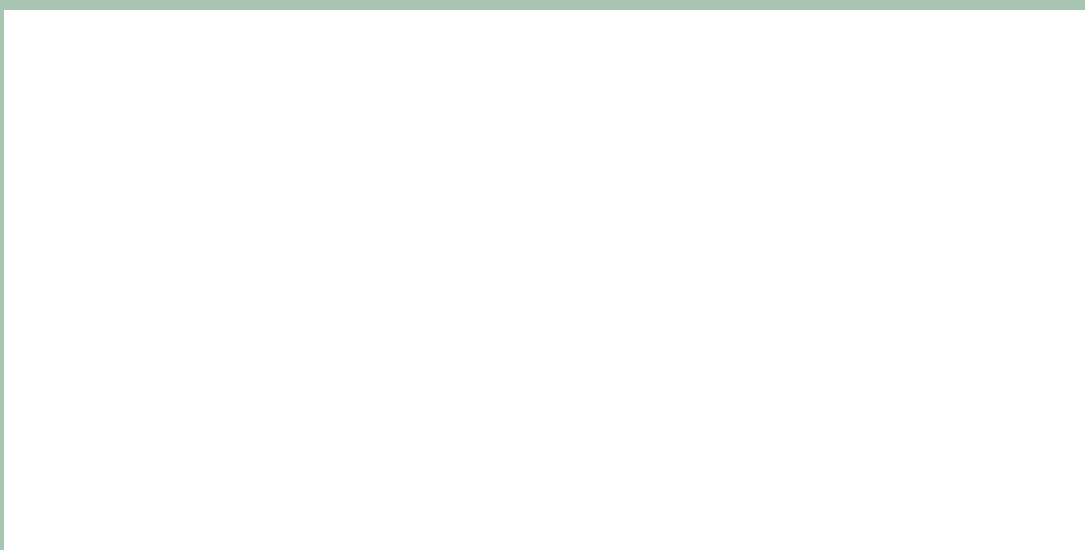
- 8.1 A new integrated general provisions Act including modernised provisions relating to the appointment, functions and powers of authorised officers who are responsible for responding to non-attendance and non-participation of students of compulsory school and education age?



PROPOSAL NINE - Curriculum

What are your views on:

- 9.1 A new integrated general provisions Act containing appropriate responsibilities of the Director-General for the determination of curriculum in government schools and early childhood development services within the context of the national curriculum reforms?



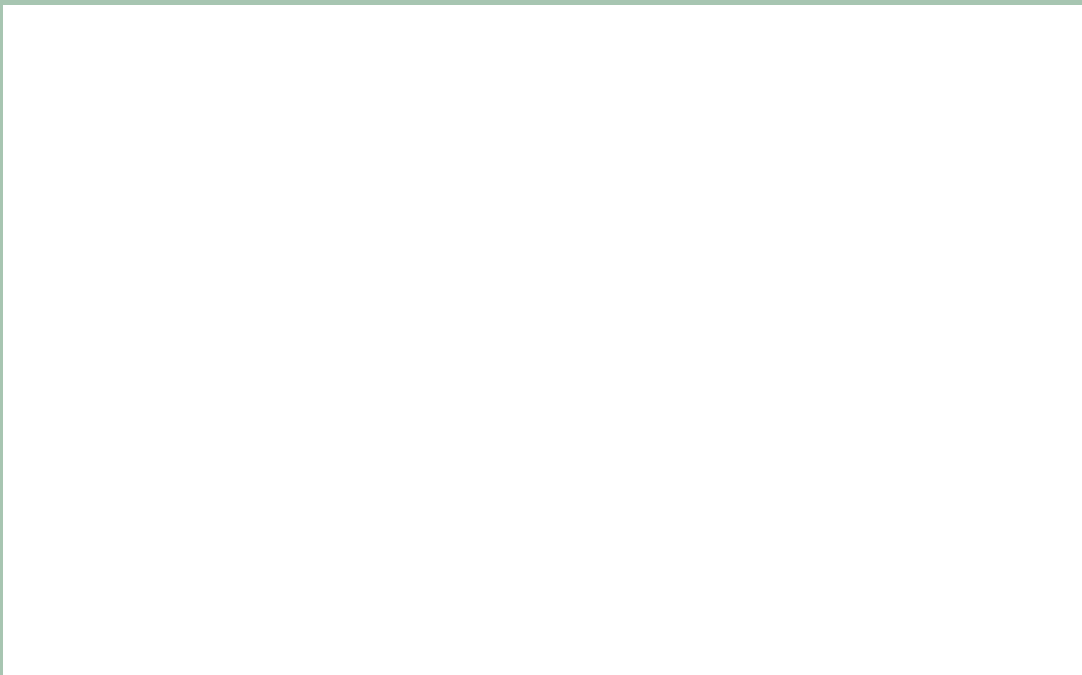
PROPOSAL TEN - Governance

What are your views on:

10.1 A new integrated general provisions Act maintaining a requirement that all government schools and early childhood development services have a governing body responsible for strategic governance of the service/s?



10.2 A new integrated general provisions Act which articulates the importance of parent and community involvement in strategic governance of government schools and early childhood development services?



PROPOSAL TEN - Governance (Cont...)

10.3 A new integrated general provisions Act not containing prescriptive barriers to parent and community participation in local strategic governance?

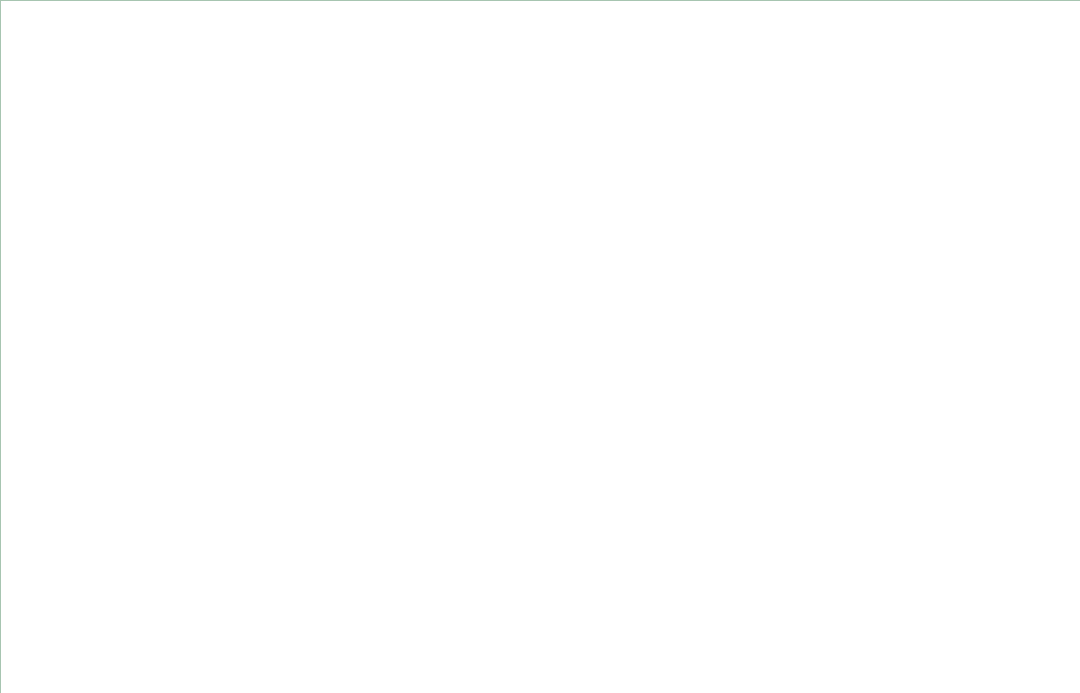


10.4 A new integrated general provisions Act prescribing appropriate ministerial responsibilities concerning governance of government schools and early childhood development services governance?

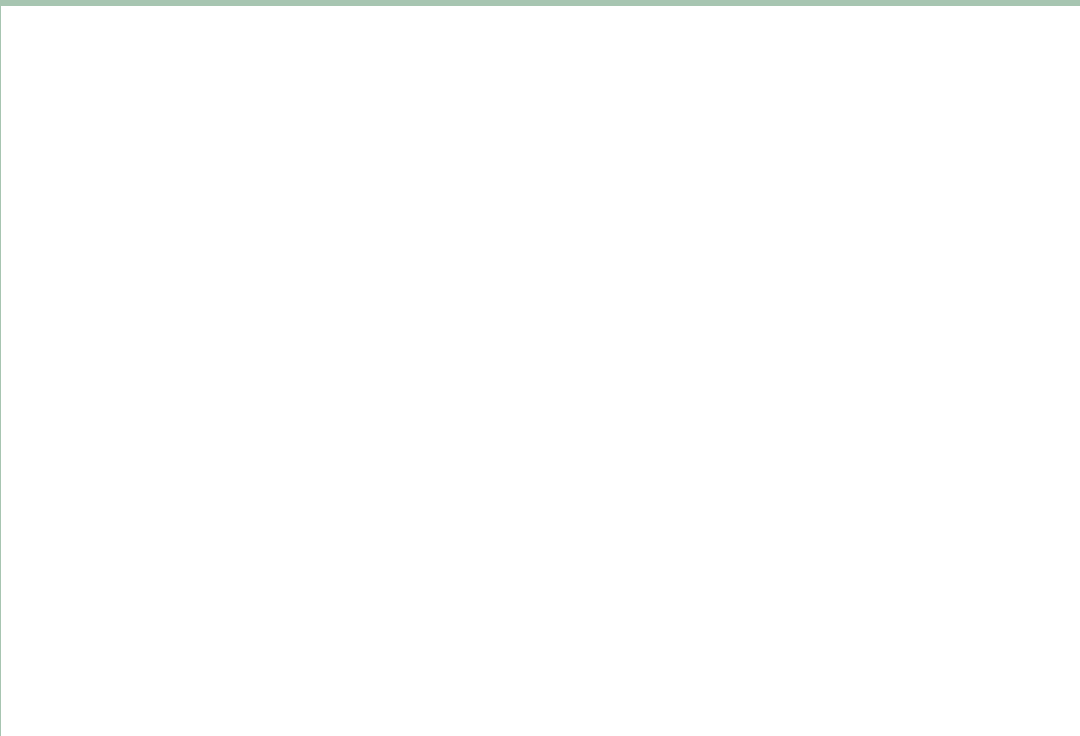


PROPOSAL TEN - Governance (Cont...)

10.5 A new integrated general provisions Act defining the respective roles and responsibilities of governing councils?



10.6 A new integrated general provisions Act including modern governance provisions that underpin current and future integrated service delivery?



PROPOSAL ELEVEN - Religious education

What are your views on:

11.1 A new integrated general provisions Act prescribing the non compulsory nature of religious education and requiring that it be delivered outside of core instruction time?

11.2 A new integrated general provisions Act including a principle about the importance of respecting individuals' religious and cultural beliefs in relation to religious education in government schools?

PROPOSAL ELEVEN - Religious education (Cont...)

11.3 A new integrated general provisions Act prescribing the roles and responsibilities of religious volunteers in government schools?

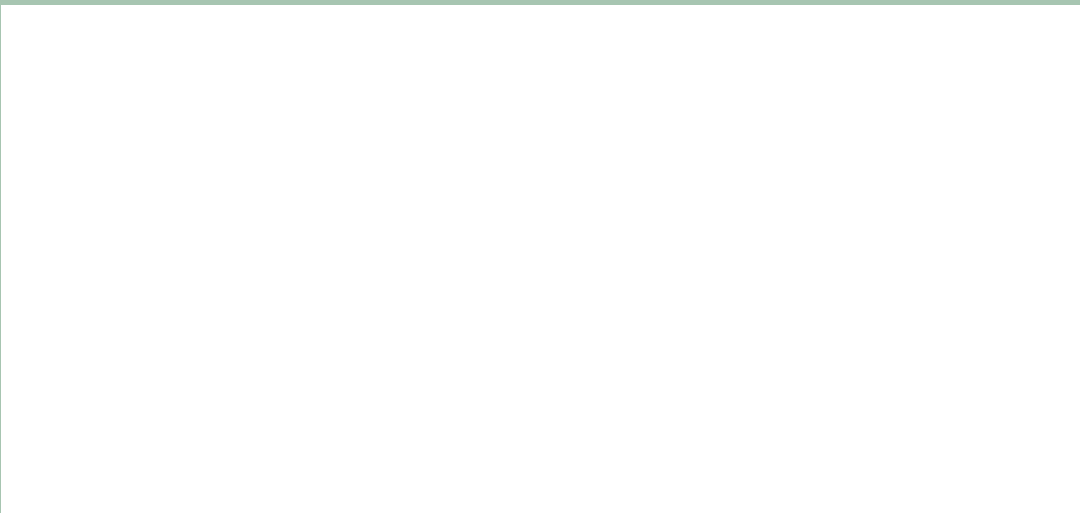


PROPOSAL TWELVE - Facilities

What are your views on:

12.1 A new integrated general provisions Act providing the authority for the Minister to:

- determine the permitted use of government school land buildings and facilities
- determine the use of government early childhood development service facilities.
- contract to make use of community facilities for schools and early childhood development services?



PROPOSAL THIRTEEN - Information and data

What are your views on:

- 13.1 A new integrated general provisions Act containing the appropriate authority to require information that is relevant to the provision of education and early childhood development services and removing the outdated census collection provisions in the Education Act?

PROPOSAL FOURTEEN - Safe environments

What are your views on:

- 14.1 A new integrated general provisions Act containing appropriate powers and authorities to ensure children, students, staff and school and early childhood development communities are safe from harm. This should include specific direction about appropriate action being authorised in the legislation to address threats or disruption to individuals or the provision of education and early childhood development?

PROPOSAL FIFTEEN - Fees and charges

What are your views on:

15.1 A new integrated general provisions Act including appropriate materials and services charges for government schools and early childhood development services?



PROPOSAL SIXTEEN - Regulations

What are your views on:

16.1 A new integrated general provisions Act including the full range of required regulation-making powers based on those currently in the Education and Children's Services Acts?



PROPOSAL SEVENTEEN - Additional provisions

What are your views on:

17.1 A new integrated general provisions Act prohibiting corporal punishment in all schools and early childhood development services?



17.2 A new integrated general provisions Act defining an 'education entitlement' outlining the state's commitment and obligations in respect of access to public education?



PROPOSAL SEVENTEEN - Additional provisions

What are your views on:

17.3 Any additional issues that could be considered for inclusion in a new integrated general provisions Act for education and early childhood development? *

* Note - suggestions should relate only to general administrative provisions of the legislation and not include other matters that are the subject of, or likely to be considered, within the scope of other discussion papers



ADDITIONAL COMMENTS



Government
of South Australia

<http://www.edlawreform.sa.gov.au>