



12 November 2014

Dear Drama Australia Members,

**RE: Drama Australia & National Advocates for Arts Education
October Meetings in Canberra**

On 28 and 29 October 2014, the National Advocates for Arts Education (NAAE) met Therese Kenny, Advisor to the Federal Education Minister, the Hon. Christopher Pyne MP; Shadow Federal Education Minister, the Hon. Kate Ellis MP and Senator Deborah O'Neill (member of the Senate Education and Employment Legislation Committee) and Federal Arts Ministry and Federal Education Department officials in a joint meeting. John Saunders and Sandra Gattenhof represented Drama Australia.

At these meetings the NAAE made clear our view that the Australian Curriculum: the Arts should be implemented in its current form and that the Review's recommendations would be damaging if accepted. We have asked Federal Education Minister, the Hon. Christopher Pyne to reject the Review's recommendations pertaining to the Australian Curriculum: the Arts.

The meetings were productive and positive.

From our meetings in Canberra, Drama Australia understands the next steps in the Review of the Australian Curriculum are as follows;

- All State, Territory and the Federal Education Minister will meet in early December 2014 to discuss the Review of the Australian Curriculum at the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) meeting.
- State and Territory Education Ministers will discuss making a decision to either adopt or reject the recommendations in the Review of the Australian Curriculum at the COAG meeting.
- Early in 2015, we expect the Federal Education Minister, the Hon. Christopher Pyne MP to release a detailed response to the Review of the Australian Curriculum.
- Following the December COAG meeting, the next COAG meeting is scheduled for April 2015. It is likely that at this meeting the Ministers will either accept or reject the recommendations of the Review of the Australian Curriculum.
- Members should also expect the Federal Education Minister's Review into Teacher Training to be released over the coming months, which will be added to the COAG agenda.



DRAMA AUSTRALIA

The NAAE and Drama Australia have sent detailed response of the Review of the Australian Curriculum to the Federal Education Minister, the Hon. Christopher Pyne MP and also sent this to all State and Territory Education Ministers.

Drama Australia encourages all individual members to write to their State or Territory Education Minister urging them to reject the recommendations pertaining to the Arts in the Review of the Australian Curriculum. Members may also like to attached the NAAE and/or Drama Australia detailed response in their letters. These can be found at www.dramaaustralia.org.au/australian-curriculum.html.

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Member Associations of Drama Australia:
ACTDA – Australian Capital Territory Drama Association
Drama NSW – Drama Education Association of New South Wales
Drama Queensland – Queensland Drama in Education Association
Drama TAS, Tasmanian Association for Drama in Education
Drama VIC, Drama in Education Association of Victoria
Drama West – Association of Drama Educators Western Australia
SAADIE – South Australian Association for Drama in Education