DON'T PLAY POLITICS AND IDEOLOGY WITH NATIONAL CURRICULUM

It is critically important that the national curriculum discussion not be mired in ideology or another political debate over Federal and State responsibilities, rights and demarcation, according to the Association of Independent Schools of South Australia.

The Association’s Executive Director, Garry Le Duff, said a national curriculum is well worth exploring and needs balanced discussion and consideration.

“Here in the Independent sector in South Australia there are teachers, leaders and experts who are keen to get involved and inform this very important discussion for the future of our children and our nation,” said Mr Le Duff.

“A national curriculum is definitely worth exploring. We must look carefully at the value of consistencies across the States and balance that with the value of diversity and choice in what we teach.

“Consistency and diversity can, for example, be achieved by settling on a national core curriculum and then enabling diversity by allowing schools to pursue agreed options outside the core in that subject.

“A well-constructed national curriculum could also be a huge asset in attracting fee-paying international students to Australia’s non-government and government schools.

“However, we would not want a national curriculum that creates a complex layer of Canberra bureaucracy.”

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