

SUBMISSION TO PARLIAMENTARY ENQUIRY INTO ADULT LITERACY

Submitted by Armadale Read Write Now Group

Armadale Read Write Now group covers an area from Mundijong to Gosnells and surrounding suburbs and as such has many socio/economically challenged residents. Some of these come from a non-English speaking background although we do preference those who are from an English speaking background, who have been unable to access or complete formal education.

There are many reasons for this, from the person who had to continually move to escape an abusive father and therefore had to consistently change schools, to those who live in poverty and there is no support from their family to ensure they attend school. Many families that come here from other countries do not understand the value/importance of education. This may be because they have migrated here from places where there is little or no education system (especially for girls).

The reasons for adult illiteracy are many and varied and it may take some time, once they reach adulthood, for them to realise and ADMIT how this is preventing them from enjoying even the most basic things in life.

Fortunately some of them are able to find Read Write Now through friends or possible future employers or the various organisations supporting them and will refer them to us through our Central Office at North Metropolitan TAFE.

Our tutors are all volunteers who provide varied and diverse help to adult students on a one-to-one basis and because of this they can provide the EXACT help the student needs. This may be as basic as teaching them the alphabet, to reading basic books then progressing to getting a Driver's Licence and on to attending TAFE and/or finding employment.

One of the greatest joys as a tutor is when your student finally achieves their aim, however simple or advanced that may be!

Please support this valuable and important service supplied by volunteers throughout the State of Western Australia.

Thank you.

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Coordinators, Armadale Branch,
Read Write Now.