

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment - Education

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates 2014-2015**

Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth

Department of Education Question No. ED0205_15

Senator O'Neill provided in writing.

Question

Characteristics of a robust curriculum

What are the characteristics of a robust curriculum? Are there any elements of the current Australian Curriculum which are not robust? What are these elements?

Answer

A robust curriculum is balanced and offers students an appropriate degree of choice and diversity.

Under its terms of reference, the Review of the Australian Curriculum is investigating the robustness of the Australian Curriculum.

The reviewers will provide recommendations to the Commonwealth Minister for Education regarding:

- i. the curriculum shaping process followed by Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) to ensure that the curriculum is balanced and offers students an appropriate degree of choice and diversity;
- ii. the process of curriculum development to be followed by the ACARA for the development and revision of all future curriculum content;
- iii. the content in learning areas, cross curriculum priorities and general capabilities of the Australian Curriculum;
- iv. the ongoing monitoring, evaluation and review of curriculum content used by ACARA to ensure independence, rigour and balance in curriculum development.