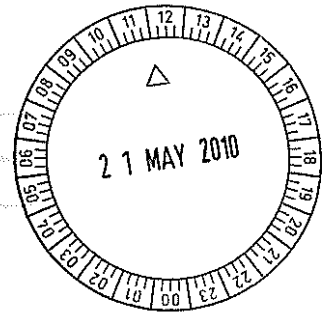




PUBLIC
YouthCARE



Estimates and Financial Operations Committee (Legislative Council)

Inquiry into the removal of year 11 and 12 in district high schools

Submission to the Inquiry by Gingin DHS Chaplain's Committee

Submission Author: Sylvia Kelly Phone: 9575 2541

The Gingin District High School Chaplain's Committee would like to support the continuity of the Year 11 and 12 program at Gingin DHS.

We believe that the community as a whole benefits when all of our students have viable opportunities to complete Year 11 and 12 education. We are concerned that many of our young people will not travel the required distance to attend Senior High Schools in Perth, and therefore will miss out on a vital part of their education.

In our discussions at the Chaplain's committee, several of our members recalled difficult trips with children in the country to attend Senior High Schools. These recollections were from some of the most committed and determined parents in the community. Imagine if some parents were not so committed to providing the necessary transport or support to children? The amount of time that students spend on buses could be spent on crucial study time, or time with their families.

We believe that this is a social justice issue for our children, and that some decision-makers might be unaware of the issues faced by students in a country community. The school has had a commitment to Year 11 and 12 programs for the past ten years, and has put a great deal of effort into making sure that all students have appropriate supervision and a comfortable work area.

If the school is going to continue to offer Year 11 and 12 programs, then they will need to have enough resources to provide supervision to the students. The school has lost funding this year, and will lose more funding next year. This will undoubtedly result in a lower level of provision for the affected students.

We would urge the government to continue to fund the Year 11 and 12 program at Gingin, and to make sure that all of our students have the opportunity for a good education.