

## National Cultural Policy Submission

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Public

Individual

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Short submission (text box 500 words or less)

I am writing as a mother, grandmother, teacher and Teacher Librarian now retired. I have witnessed the value that a well resourced library with qualified staff can bring to my children and now my grandchildren. It is a safe place where children can mix with all age groups and read about life experiences in a safe environment. At school a qualified Teacher Librarian can guide students in genre choices for their age and reading ability encouraging students to widen their reading journey. One of the most important aspects of the library curriculum is Information Studies. Students are taught to search for information from at least three different sources and to check the credibility of the source. They learn note taking skills and acknowledgment of sources in a bibliography. This encourages them not to use misinformation and be alert to scams. Teachers are extremely time poor and these skills are often missed in their everyday lessons making the Library lesson each week a valuable addition to their program. Libraries provide a safe place for all students and caters for their differences especially during recess where they can come and do a variety of things from reading, Lego, knitting puzzles, craft or just find a quiet place to sit. Please allow school libraries to be a valuable part of a child's learning. From a mother, grandmother and teacher