

I am concerned about the lack of reference to gifted students in the draft report. Gifted students are students with the greatest capability (among all students) to make substantial contributions to society. Yet, they are one of the most neglected groups of students in the education system. There is a prevailing myth that gifted students will look after themselves, when in fact research shows that the non-availability of appropriate educational interventions for these students will result in very negative consequences including dropping out of school. It is ironic that in Australia, so much support is offered to students who are gifted in sport, but not in the academic domain.

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