

**Education and Innovation Committee**

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**From:** CLEWETT John [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, 13 May 2013 11:16 AM  
**To:** Education and Innovation Committee  
**Subject:** Physics Curriculum

**Categories:** Blue Category

Dear Education & Innovation Committee

My teaching of physics ceased in 2010 as I was asked to teach the New Senior Physics work syllabus and found it to be a retrograde step in the teaching of Physics after 8 years of thoroughly enjoying my teaching of the physics concepts under the old syllabus. The main reason my disenchantment was the lack of knowledge uniformly being taught to all students to enable them to have the knowledge base to be able to independently complete much of the curriculum without excessive teacher scaffolding. While the Extended Experimental Research has potential to enable students to connect knowledge and explore the world, particularly the exceptional students, the maturity of many students precludes them from actually learning the knowledge found within the unit for future physics studies. They often ignore the broad concepts and focus on the specialised aspects of the project. Consequently, they often have large deficiencies in their understanding despite having successfully passed a unit of work that should have prepared them for further work.

Please ensure that the focus of any future physics syllabus remains one of providing a solid foundation ensuring that students understand the basic principles so they can move to a more research focus where there must be an understanding of the broader concepts.

Kind Regards

CLEWETT, John  
[REDACTED]

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