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## **ABSURD NEW NATIONAL CURRICULUM SUBJECTS DICTATE STUDENTS MUST LEARN ABOUT “CONSUMERISM” DURING PHYSICAL EDUCATION CLASSES**

“The emphasis in the National Curriculum’s new Health and Physical Education subject on sustainability and consumerism demonstrates exactly why the National Curriculum should be scrapped,” said Chris Berg, Research Fellow with the Institute of Public Affairs, a free market think tank.

The Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority released details of the Health and Physical Education subject yesterday.

The Health and Physical Education subject focuses on ‘sustainability’, ‘diversity, social justice and consumerism’, ‘movement experiences’, and the relationship between health and the environment.

“It is absurd that instead of using scarce school hours kicking a ball around, students will be taught the evils of consumerism,” said Mr Berg.

“In Years 1 and 2, they are supposed to ‘recognise similarities and differences in individuals and groups, and explore how these are celebrated and respected.’

“They are supposed to study how emotional responses vary across culture and to participate in dance routines from different cultures.

“It is not clear why any of this ought to be in a Health and Physical Education Curriculum,” said Mr Berg.

The National Curriculum was an initiative of the Rudd-Gillard Labor government. In January 2014, Education Minister Christopher Pyne announced a review of the National Curriculum.

“The Abbott government should scrap the National Curriculum, not review it. Curriculum decisions should be made by schools, teachers, and parents, not Canberra bureaucrats,” said Mr Berg.

The Health and Physical Education curriculum is available at <http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/healthandphysicaleducation/>

**For further information and comment:**

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