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Primary Review publishes first report

12 October 2007

The first interim report from the Primary Review has been published today, finding a number of concerns over the society in which children are growing up and the shape of current educational policy.

Through a number of meetings with a range of figures from different groups affected by education, including employers, teachers, parents and community leaders, among others, the Primary Review has built a picture of the current state of primary education across the country.

Some government-led campaigns did have the support of those in education, although other schemes seemed to lack this backing, the report found.

The Every Child Matters campaign was backed by those surveyed, although the proposals for improvements to numeracy and literacy among primary school children were less popular. There was also 'deep concern' over the

effects of stress on children as a result of testing at ages seven and 11.

Besides the school environment, wider concern for family life was also present among those interviewed for the report, suggesting that children were being 'forced to grow up too soon.'

The Primary Review expects to report its full findings towards the end of 2008, but these initial findings have highlighted a number of areas of concern.

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