



Marion Scrymgour MP

MEMBER FOR LINGIARI

5 May 2023

Dear Yipirinya School Council

Thank you for your letter to me on the 03 May 2023. I want to address some of your concerns outlined to me in your letter.

First and foremost, I had no intention of causing shame or insult when saying a 'dumping ground.' On Saturday many of the Elders and Gavin mentioned that Yipirinya was being sent children who did not fit into other schools and that Yipirinya was not equipped for this.

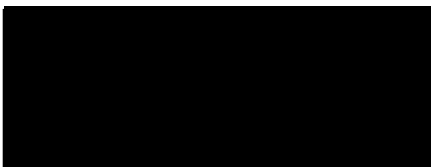
Other schools were sending students they saw as 'too difficult' to Yipirinya. This is the way in which I was referring to the matter – and in no way would I look to label students in such a bad way. I recognise it was the wrong choice of words and I am deeply sorry if I caused hurt or insult.

In relation to the claims that Gavin and Senator Price are trying to bully this proposal through – I must stand by them. The use of the media to get this proposal through is not appropriate. Senator Price has repeatedly come out and demanded we fund this proposal – but as I said on Saturday – I can't take the current proposal to Federal Ministers as it needs more detail.

I believe Gavin and Senator Price's approach in the media is damaging to the proposal. As mentioned on Saturday's meeting – I am happy to take a fully developed proposal to Ministers once it has been completed. In its current form – the proposal does not stand up to the Government's requirements.

I am in Canberra for Federal Parliament – and in Top End for electoral engagements – until June. I will not be able to meet with the School Council before that time.

Kind regards



Marion Scrymgour MP

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Marion Scrymgour MP, Parliament House, Canberra ACT 2600