

To whom it may concern,

I am currently completing a Masters of Teaching as part of a pathway to working as a School Counsellor in NSW Public Schools and I wish to express my concerns for the retirement of the 4+2 internship pathway.

This concerns me personally and many of my peers as retiring the 4+2 pathway now will not leave us with any time to start registration once we commence work as school counsellors. This not only disadvantages us in our careers, but also vulnerable children and young people who could benefit from having access to counsellors with additional professional training.

My peers and I have been under the impression that the 4+2 pathway was an option for us to become registered and therefore opted for this pathway as a means to engage with students who require help from professionals in a meaningful way, and to deny us this option now would be unreasonable.

I request that these changes be extended for at least three years for us to start the registration process and accommodate for the time required to access a supervisor.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sincerely,

Lauren Clarke.