

Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

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From: [REDACTED]
To: [Education, Employment, Training and Skills Committee](#)
Subject: Homeschool voice
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Dear Committee Members,

I am writing to share my personal experience as a homeschooling parent and to advocate for the recognition of alternative educational approaches that better meet the needs of our children. Specifically, I want to highlight the limitations of the Australian Curriculum and the transformative impact of homeschooling in fostering my child's academic success and mental well-being.

The Australian Curriculum, in its current form, is outdated and fails to engage many children, leading to significant mental health issues. My own children experienced this firsthand, struggling to connect with the curriculum and suffering from the adverse effects on their mental well-being. Recognizing the need for a change, we made the decision to homeschool, and the results have been nothing short of remarkable.

At home, in a self-directed curriculum setting, my child is thriving. Freed from the constraints of a standardized curriculum, they are able to pursue their interests, passions, and career aspirations with enthusiasm and determination. This personalized approach to learning not only engages him academically but also fosters the development of real-life skills that are essential for success in his chosen paths.

Homeschooling empowers our children to take ownership of their education, encouraging independence, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills. He is learning how to learn, exploring diverse subjects, and developing a deep understanding of himself and the world around him.

Moreover, homeschooling provides a supportive and nurturing environment that prioritizes my child's mental and emotional well-being. Without the pressures and anxieties associated with traditional schooling, he is able to flourish and develop a positive self-image that will serve him well throughout his life.

Our personal story on why we choose to homeschool is because my son was being left behind and severely bullied not just by other students, but by his own teacher and headmaster. My son's safe space was taken away from him so many times.

I had gone to the education department many times about these matters, and I was turned down at every angle. My son did not have a voice, so I will most certainly be his.

My son went into severe depression resulting in suicidal tendencies, many years of psychologist appointments and continuing other forms of therapy to help work through the yrs of mistreatment within school grounds.

My son wasn't able to concentrate at school due to all of this and being on spectrum has been a challenge for him within this environment.

Since we have started homeschooling 3yrs ago, my son has come leaps and bounds .

He is learning how to accept and love himself again, no longer has suicidal tendencies, he is also very focused on his learning and passions now. While we do not homeschool in one particular style, we do it in a style that fits and works with my son as he does not fit into one particular box. None of us do.

For 3 years now, my educational plans set out for my child have always been accepted and given a green tick of approval.

I should not need to prove why my son should be homeschooled nor should my son be forced back into a style that only fits in one box.

Us home educators already have access to some of the best educational programs in the world. Why restrict us to only being allowed to follow the national curriculum that we chose to leave behind in the first place? Because it was failing our children.

I have a 12yroid boy who is currently studying his first veterinary course as he has decided that is one of his many passions in life. The other is art and technology.

Now you tell me, where within the curriculum is a 12yroid able to only focus on those areas of education at a level that suits him Aswell as gain life skills on top of this ?, at a pace that suits him? within a community that supports him no matter what age , etc?

Can you also tell me why is it so important for you, the QLD government to think its ok to take away our rights to educate our children the way we see is in the best interest of them ?

We do not get paid to educate our children but maybe we should if you keep trying to force this on us parents and caregivers

I will not let my son think that his education is limited to things that do not set his soul on fire .

I do not support nor consent to this change!

In conclusion, I urge the committee to recognize the value of homeschooling as a viable alternative to traditional schooling. By embracing diverse educational approaches and empowering parents to make choices that best meet the needs of their children, we can ensure that every child has the opportunity to thrive academically, mentally, and emotionally.

Thank you for your attention and consideration.

Sincerely,

Casey Lawrence

Parent/ teacher/ superhero



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