

Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

Submission No: 164
Submitted by: Cherie Cefai
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Submitter Comments:

I have great concerns over the changes proposed for homeschooling children and families. In particular the proposed change to ensure all children are reported against the Australian Curriculum. As a state school teacher, I see first-hand how the Australian Curriculum is NOT allowing children to succeed to their full potential in a mainstream school setting. This is even more the case when children have diverse needs, EALD, identify as First Nation, or have special needs. As a state school educator for over 20 years, I believe it is unfair and unrealistic for homeschooling families to have to be forced to use the Australian Curriculum for planning and reporting. Besides having a bachelor's degree in education, teachers are given constant professional development on how to teach, plan and assess the Australian Curriculum, as well as having support from school personnel. My own children attended, and one is still attending a QLD State school which followed a full Montessori curriculum up until the end of Prep. I have now made the decision to home school my own children as I have seen the move to a school which follows the Australian Curriculum is not what is best for my children. If State Schools can be funded to use an alternative curriculum (Montessori) as my children's school is, why can't homeschooling families have a choice of the curriculum they use to educate their children?