## **Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024**

Submission No: 738

Submitted by: Emma Winter

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**Submitter Comments:** 

From:

To: Education, Employment, Training and Skills Committee

Subject: Advocating to Educate My Children with Freedom

Date: Monday, 18 March 2024 6:52:17 AM

## Dear Committee,

I am writing to express my personal concerns about the proposed changes to legislation which would require home educating parents to follow the National Curriculum.

I am currently homeschooling my very vibrant, passionate 6 year old daughter who is grade 1 age.

When it became very clear to my husband and I that traditional school was not a good fit for our daughter (for a variety of reasons), we made the decision to home educate her and she is flourishing. We are very committed to providing our daughter (and our younger children) with a high quality education and have invested a lot of time and resources into sourcing high quality programs to aid in her education. I have researched curriculum and resources from around the world and have put together a program for our daughter which is providing her with solid foundational skills in many subject areas while keeping her interest and passion for learning ignited. I have been able to tailor her education to suit her personal learning styles and we can work at her own pace, to make sure that she fully understands concepts before we move on. This is an accommodation that I believe every child deserves, though for logistical reasons cannot always be catered for at schools in large classrooms.

If we were bound by legislation to follow the National Curriculum, it would be of great disadvantage to my daughter. We would no longer have the freedom to make use of the many wonderful, enriching resources currently available to us, and I would be spending more time trying to understand the educational jargon and less time actually teaching and learning with my child. I know many families who have home educated very successfully with the freedom to choose their own path and educational resources, without ever referencing the National Curriculum. I do not see why there needs to be any changes in the legislation, because there is plenty of evidence that the system is working well for the majority of families just the way it is. As a parent, I respectfully reserve my right to choose what is best for my young children, considering I am the most invested in their futures and understand their individual needs.

I would like to see anything in relation to homeschooling families being bound to the National Curriculum removed from the new bill so that parents can continue with current freedoms to educate how they see best for their family.

Regards, Emma Winter