

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

**Submission No:** 912  
**Submitted by:** [REDACTED]  
**Publication:** Making the submission public but withholding your name  
**Attachments:** No attachment  
**Submitter Comments:**

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

19 March 2024

Committee Secretary  
Education, Employment, Training and Skills Committee  
Parliament House  
George Street  
Brisbane Qld 4000

eetsc@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Committee Secretary,

**Re: Proposed changes to homeschool regulations in QLD**

I am writing to express my concerns regarding the proposed changes to homeschooling legislation in Queensland, most especially the requirement to follow a specific curriculum.

As a homeschooling parent, I believe that these changes go directly against the core reasons why many families, including mine, have chosen to homeschool our children.

Homeschooling is all about letting children learn in the ways that work best for them, and about the topics that they are most interested in. The importance of access to more flexible schooling options that ensure that all children develop a love of learning cannot be understated.

Since we started homeschooling, I've seen a massive change in how my child feels about learning. By focusing on what they're interested in, they've become excited about learning again. They're not just memorising things - they're choosing their own subjects and projects, and becoming fully absorbed in the learning process, but on their own terms. It really is magical to watch.

I personally was homeschooled during my primary school years, and they are some of my fond memories of my childhood. The freedom and flexibility that I had to learn in the way and at the rate that suited me, was an amazing gift that my parents gave me.

In addition, my child is not only building their academic knowledge, but is also developing valuable life skills and beliefs that are essential for success in the real world.

Skills like thinking critically, communicating effectively, and adapting to new situations - all skills that will serve them well beyond the confines of a classroom and will allow them to succeed in our rapidly evolving modern world.

Further, homeschooling lets my child experience the real world on a daily basis. They can do things like help out in our community, follow their hobbies, or sell their creations to others at a local market. Such diversity in practical, real-world situations prepares them to handle whatever comes their way in the future.

If homeschooling parents are required to follow rigid mandates about the topics and ways in which we teach, there is a good chance that it will prevent learning altogether, as our children will likely disengage and resist both the content and structure.

I have seen this with my own child and spoken to many other homeschooling parents with similar experiences. We know our own children best, and are uniquely positioned to create an environment that caters to their strengths, and accommodates and supports their challenges, which the school system simply isn't equipped to do.

Making everyone follow the same curriculum doesn't take into account how different each child is. We all have different interests and talents, and that directly impacts our ability to engage with learning.

If we have strict rules about what and how we can teach, it will prevent our kids from exploring what they're really good at and enjoying learning, and put them at a disadvantage when it comes to reaching their full potential.

Indeed, these proposed changes may be the exact opposite of what is in the best interests of most - if not all - homeschooled children.

As a homeschooling parent, I'm incredibly grateful for the opportunity to cultivate my children's passion for learning and to equip them for the challenges of real life through a tailored, well-rounded education.

In conclusion, I encourage the committee to acknowledge and appreciate the many advantages of homeschooling, which extend far beyond just getting good grades.

I implore you to respect the sanctity of parental choice, and focus on supporting autonomy and flexibility in learning for our children, so that we can give them the best possible educational experience.

Thank you for taking my experiences and opinions into account as you decide on the best way forward for the community.

