

Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

Submission No: 951
Submitted by: Kelly Edwards
Publication:
Attachments:
Submitter Comments:

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Education, Employment, Training and Skills Committee](#)
Subject: proposed homeschool amendment
Date: Tuesday, 19 March 2024 1:10:16 PM

To whom it may concern

I am a Victorian who has homeschooled for the past 11 years .
We didn't follow the Australian curriculum because my sons are dyslexic and their brains are wired in a way that they are unable to engage in learning if it's not something of interest to them or has meaning .

Regurgitation of outdated curriculum certainly did not spark their love of learning, following their interests has.

My now 20 year old instead had the freedom to pursue his passions and interests, playing penant golf at just the age of 14 all around Vic, beating men , winning club championships and thriving as a young man .

Here he learnt important social skills and etiquette, maths - so much maths! , science , health , english and networking. And most importantly transformed from a child with debilitating anxiety and low self esteem leaving school at aged 9 , completely disengaged to a confident young man full of enthusiasm and life goals . He didn't follow a curriculum but we were able to map his learning to key learning areas AND HE WAS ENGAGED IN HIS LEARNING .

He then landed himself a part time job at the local golf course as a greens keeper, obtaining a white card , purely because of his networking there NOT because of a curriculum that is NOT teaching employable skills.

He then went on with skills and the confidence to obtain more qualifications and now at just 20 years of age he has travelled Australia, worked in the mines , is paying off his third car, earns \$45 a hour in a job he loves plus a work vehicle, pays taxes and has many life plans and goals. Not bad for a kid who didn't follow the curriculum?!

On the other hand some of his friends who went through school to year 12 are unemployed, have no work skills or life skills for that matter , still unable to do basic maths or work out their own money and cannot think for themselves because they never had to , it was dictated to them .

I also work with kids supporting their emotional health, the number of kids going to school i see a week who are disengaged at school, miserable , anxious and self harming (as young as 6!!) blows my mind , as it should yours .

There are many many teachers here in Vic who are pulling their own kids out of school to homeschool for this very reason. Is that something you might wish to investigate?

Many parents as i once did have, made the choice to provide their child with a colourful learning experience, tailored to their individual interests and needs . Homeschool kids are often out spending time learning from experts in their fields and growing their employment skillset .

Forcing parents of qld to plan and report to a standardised curriculum is ludicrous. I am strongly against this.

For many kids this did not work in school which is WHY they are homeschooling. Many are neurodivergent who don't learn this traditional way and are brilliant and extremely talented in their special interests who will offer so much to their community if given the opportunity to do it a little differently.

I suggest the government look at the current education system and look at Why kids are no longer engaged, why kids are school refusing or school can't, why teachers are leaving the profession. And you want to try and replicate this at home ?! to me thats the definition of insanity !

We are no longer in an industrial revolution so why are we still trying to teach that way ? We want more for our kids than to be factory line workers. Your current system isn't working . Our kids are all screaming this loud and clear , they are the future of our country . Lets do better than this .

Regards
Kelly Edwards
Nyora , Vic .