

Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

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From: [REDACTED]
To: [Education, Employment, Training and Skills Committee](#)
Subject: Subject: Importance of Flexible Curriculum for Neurodiverse Learners
Date: Saturday, 23 March 2024 9:25:26 PM

Dear To Whom it may concern,

I am writing to share my concerns regarding the proposed changes to home education regulations, particularly the requirement for homeschooling families to adhere strictly to the Australian curriculum. As a parent of children with ASD and ADHD, I have experienced firsthand the challenges that arise when trying to fit neurodiverse learners into a standardized curriculum.

In the traditional school system, my children struggled to thrive within the confines of the full Australian curriculum. Their unique learning styles and needs were not adequately accommodated, resulting in frustration and disengagement from learning. This naturally affected their entire emotional wellbeing carrying over into all aspects of their lives. The system's solution was to strip back their subjects to just the core essentials, depriving them of the opportunity to explore their interests in history, art, music, and language. As well as isolating them, causing further damage to their confidence and sense of belonging.

After trying countless strategies working with the School they attended, we were forced to register for Distance Education. Whilst it was out of the confines of the classroom they were still trapped trying to adhere to the Australian Curriculum in the way that it is currently being offered inside the classroom.

It was a demoralizing experience that continued to affect their emotional wellbeing as well as making the home environment an exhausting, aggressive and an emotional rollercoaster for the entire family.

Since transitioning to a flexible and adapted curriculum in our homeschooling environment, my children have experienced remarkable growth and success in all subjects. They are no longer confined by rigid curriculum requirements and are able to learn at their own pace and in a way that suits their individual needs. As a result, they are thriving academically, mentally, and emotionally. It has been a turning point for our family to thrive.

It is crucial to recognize that neurodiverse learners require tailored approaches to education in order to reach their full potential. By imposing strict curriculum requirements on homeschooling families, we risk denying these children the opportunity to enjoy learning and develop the skills they need to succeed in post-school education and beyond.

I urge you to reconsider these proposed changes and instead prioritize flexibility and accommodation for neurodiverse learners within the home education system. By embracing diversity and individuality, we can ensure that every child has the opportunity to enjoy a fulfilling and enriching educational experience.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Cara Imierowicz

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