

Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

Submission No: 1105
Submitted by: [REDACTED]
Publication: Making the submission public but withholding your name

Attachments:

Submitter Comments:

Having homeschooled 3 boys over the last 10 years, I can say categorically that following the Australian Curriculum is not essential to their learning and their long term success. Our children were in Prep, Grade 2 and Grade 4 when we left a private school to go travelling. After travelling across and throughout Australia we returned home and never entered formal schooling again. Our families philosophy with regards to education was that if we focused on literacy and numeracy, and they could do that well, then they could learn anything in life. And learning is for life, not just while you are at school. Our children have all ran their own small business during their homeschooling years, they understand money and how investing works, they understand the importance of history and critical thinking. They are encouraged to think outside the box and be creative thinkers and problem solvers. They have never sat an exam, yet excel at university. They had not tests during their 11 years of education, yet have no difficulty getting jobs and becoming contributing members of society. Our boys are some of the smartest and most well read individuals, yet we definitely did not follow the Australian Curriculum. In fact this was the reason we left the school system, we believe that the Australian Curriculum is not giving kids the knowledge or experiences that the real world requires of them. There are many and varied reasons that families homeschool, and many ways of successfully homeschooling. Most of them do not involved following the Australian Curriculum, and the children are better off because of it. Australia's education system is no where near the top of the tables globally, and there are many countries doing things much better. Instead of doubling down on what is not working, why not open the doors and explore what can be done better and what is being done better in other countries. Our family is just one of many families that I know of who have not followed the curriculum and whose children are confident and successful in life. In fact homeschool children are often more confident and well balanced, and I believe that this is because parents have a choice about how to educate their children, and the kids have a voice in how and what they learn. It is essential that this choice be allowed, as this is essentially why many families homeschool, because the current system is not working for their children for whatever reason. Thank you for your consideration.