

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

**Submission No:** 1414  
**Submitted by:** Nicholas Graham  
**Publication:** Making the submission and your name public  
**Attachments:** No attachment

### Submitter Comments:

Dear Committee, I object to these proposed changes to the Educational Bill 2024. I am a father of two home educated children. Both started in public school but were removed in Prep and Grade 4 due to severe school trauma. Home educating has meant my wife (who is their primary educator) could offer extra parental support and more time to flourish academically than a school timetable would allow, and provide a 'high quality, joyous learning program using their interests and passions.

I have particular concerns about: 1. Home-school students not being able to use a personalised curriculum for their children. Forced compliance with the Australian Curriculum and Senior Syllabus fails to acknowledge the diversity of many homeschooling students who often have disabilities, neurodiversity and health concerns. Removal of university as a valid option of learning is a concern. QCAA (senior secondary) is not able to be taught in a home setting. Montessori is not identified as a 'recognised alternative' on ACARA's special site (see this link. <https://acara.edu.au/curriculum/alternative-curriculum-recognition/recognition-register>) 2. The removal of the provisional registration period, especially for those trauma-based students, who need to leave the school environment urgently to protect their physical and mental well-being. 3. 'Proving that home educating is in the best interest of the child'. Who will be deciding if it is in the best interest of the child and how will this be determined? Is this not a parental right to decide? The very definition of diversity necessitates that every child's access to a high-quality education may not look the same. To acknowledge the diversity of children, home educators must be able to design and implement individualised learning plans to enable access to a high-quality education. Currently home educators are required to write yearly reports with proof of learning plus the next year's learning plan. This is then checked over by teachers with the Home Education Unit within Education QLD. In addition, Section 36 of the Human Rights Act 2019 says that: 1. Every child has the right to have access to primary and secondary education appropriate to the child's needs. 2. Every person has the right to have access, based on the person's abilities, to further vocational education and training that is equally accessible to all... "Considerations need to be made as to the reasons why families have chosen to homeschool; neurodiversity, learning disabilities, health reasons, giftedness, religious beliefs, or the need for a more flexible approach to education. This Bill will undermine families' right to home educate in a way that suits their children. Kind Regards