

Education (General Provisions) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

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From: [REDACTED]
To: [Education, Employment, Training and Skills Committee](#)
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Dear Committee,

I am a homeschooled teen. I'm 16 and have been homeschooled since grade 3.

I oppose to the current proposal to define high quality education as having anything to do with the national curriculum.

My entire homeschooling experience has had very little to do with the national curriculum. My mum says she has glanced at it twice in the last 8 years. Once to get ideas for topics for history and once to teach other homeschool parents how to use it.

We don't use the national curriculum. I'm sure it's because of this that I enjoy history. Last week I learnt all about ancient Roman toilets. They are fascinating, and gross, but unfortunately not part of the national curriculum. I watched a video, created a model of one and explained it to my siblings.

I learnt to read at home before I started school. My mum taught me using games, books, phonics and practice. When I got to school and began following the national curriculum I didn't get an opportunity to read for six months. It wasn't until my mum told my teachers I could read that they tested me and found out I could. Why didn't they notice? I didn't know all my letter names yet so I had to learn those first apparently. The national curriculum failed me here. I suffered through two more years of dumbing me down before we left to homeschool.

Anyway, I'm 16 now. I work one day a week as a carpenter and I'm doing my apprenticeship. I homeschool 3 days a week. I go to co-ops and take classes with friends. I'm learning to drive. I would say 80% of what I do for my education is not in the curriculum, but I'm still learning. More importantly I'm working towards my real life goals, not just ticking school boxes.

Homeschooling allows for a high quality education in 1000 different ways. That's the way it works. That's what makes it great. Homeschooling is far more than just doing school at home. Its living life, learning from it and following interests. Learning has real purpose this way, and that is motivating.

Please reconsider this section of the bill. It isn't well thought out. A one size fits all approach to education is not what we are aiming for in 2024 surely!

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