

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

**Submission No:** 1893  
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Dear Premier Steven Miles and Qld Education Minister, Dianne Farmer,

Subject: Home Schooling

My wife and I understand the Queensland Government is considering "cracking down" on parents who home school by enforcing every subject in the Australian Curriculum be taught.

My wife and I have home schooled our grandson for 5 years on the back of him struggling with mainstream schooling due to him being diagnosed with autism and not coping in the classroom.

Some concerning negative mainstream schooling issues being;

- teachers spending far too much time disciplining unruly pupils,
- teachers untrained in controlling behaviour issues,
- teachers not being supported by senior management in addressing behavioural concerns,
- teachers not having the time to accommodate special needs of children who require slower learning techniques such as comprehending the task, through more thorough detailed explanation,
- teachers having no qualifications for a specific subject so just making up the numbers,
- pupils not gaining practical experience such as cooking, gardening, cleaning, baking, art, sport, and other general life experiences to assist with survival in the big world beyond school,
- children with autism often have difficulty coping with loud noise from screaming matches between teachers and pupils which is extremely distracting and unsettling,
- like all aspects in life, not everyone is suited to the demands of daily expectations, with the school classroom environment being no different.

We believe our grandson has been extremely fortunate to being offered a schooling alternative and we're so proud of his academic achievements that have been attained through a one-on-one educational option. Whilst this may surprise, based on our experience the productivity at Home is far greater than at School due to time wasted in the school environment.

As mentioned above, our understanding is that you're endeavouring to pass a BILL through Parliament that ensures Home Schooled families cover the entire Australian Curriculum. Why would you enforce subjects such as History and Language if there's no interest from the student, wouldn't it be prudent to place greater time and emphasis on useful subjects such as English, Maths, Science, Economics and Business etc. that will benefit future everyday life experiences.

Every media outlet highlights the Queensland Government has many issues and failing with most. Mr Miles you stood firmly behind Premier Anastacia Palaszczuk so your history of failure is prolonged, many and varied and has continued since you were promoted to the Premier's position. Yet you continue to promote issues such as Home Schooling when you

clearly don't comprehend the complexities of the issue. We see Home Schooling as a minority occupation with very small numbers, government figures suggest 10,048 registered Home Schoolers from a Queensland population of approximately 5,540,000.

Your energy would be better spent providing classrooms for the Queensland students with sufficient teachers to reduce pupil class numbers, adequately qualified teachers to enhance the standard of education in Queensland, support teachers in disciplining students, (look at your own unacceptable youth crime statistics in Queensland), and meet acceptable standards to encourage parents to believe that the schooling system in Queensland accommodate all students to achieve improved education to match appropriate standards, including enhanced results to match other Australian States plus countries overseas.

We'd recommend you get your own house in order before embarking on a project such as enforcement of an educational strategy that has little merit. I'd suggest a high percentage of Home Schooled children are performing significantly better than if they were under your current inadequate broken system, which is failing students, parents and teachers. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] in another area but you better hurry because the state election is looming so you're running out of time.

Regards

Ally & Kevin McManus  
Queensland

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