

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

**Submission No:** 2068  
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**Submitter Comments:**

Dear Committee Members,

As a homeschool graduate myself, I am writing to challenge you on the decision for change to the homeschooling legislation and to express my deep concerns regarding the proposed change to home education requirements in Queensland, particularly shifts towards standardized, one-size fits all. Mandating a specific curriculum goes against the very essence of homeschooling. Homeschooling allows parents (who have the highest understanding on what's best for their children) to provide a curriculum that best suits their child's needs. As a former homeschooler and someone who has never set foot in a school, I can express that the decision my mother made to homeschool me was possibly the best decision she ever made. I thrived through being homeschooled. I had a large community with plenty of friends that I still call family now as a young adult. I had freedom to learn at my own pace, within the comfort of my own home year me and without the pressures of others around me. Learning at my own pace didn't mean I lacked in education and learning. Between schooling at home and within my homeschooling group I was provided with excursions and experiences just like all children. I would even go to the extent of saying I was able to experience MORE. Art, sports, debate and law, drama, sewing, mechanics, fitness, gardening, tech, health, cooking and of course Maths, English, Science and Social studies are just some of the subjects I learnt through my homeschooling experience.

Growing up I had a strong interest in writing and becoming an author (I still do) so, after graduating in 2020 I went on to study creative writing for a year at Griffith University. After I completed the there, I became a manager at the age of 18 at a local retail store. Currently, I work as an early childhood educator and am studying my cert III and then onto my diploma. I am telling you this to demonstrate that my being homeschooled has done nothing but encourage me to go after my dreams and have the space to discover who I am as a person and what I can achieve in this world. Through my experience in getting into uni and within different workplaces people had a high interest in my experience of homeschooling, they found it interesting and insightful. I wasn't socially impaired, I wasn't awkward, and I did not have a lack of understanding of this world or education. I truly believe that being homeschooled made me the person I am today and that is because I was not schooled under a legislation that forced me to school the same way as everyone. My mother could see my strengths and my interests. Yes, I still did the schoolwork that I didn't always enjoy but she was able to provide me with teachings that I genuinely enjoyed and flourished in.

I urge you to please reconsider these changes as I wish to also give the experiences of homeschooling, I had to my future children.