

Submission
No 190

INQUIRY INTO HOME SCHOOLING

Name: Name suppressed

Date received: 9/09/2014

Partially Confidential

I have worked in the education industry for the past ten years and am currently undertaking a Bachelor of Primary Education.

I am employed by a family that homeschool their children, having commenced this employment a year and a half ago. I tutor two children across the curriculum one full day per week with additional literacy tutoring for one of the children on another day.

My experience of homeschooling has been very positive and informative, having not have any experience with the homeschooling community prior to my current employment.

As an educator and future teacher, I would like to see much more variation in the way all children are educated in Australia. The increased flexibility and variety of options such as part-time schooling and homeschooling would benefit everyone involved. As a species, we are in need of diverse individuals who have had the opportunities to pursue their goals, interests, passions and talents to the full extent possible. I believe greater flexibility and less standardisation of proscribed curriculum and syllabus content will contribute to this. The option for families to homeschool their children is a part of this big picture.

I would like to see home schooling in N.S.W. receive increased government support, at least to the level that children in public schools receive. This support should serve the dynamic and variable system of home schooling, rather than undermine it by forcing homeschoolers into standards such as schooling between particular times and in particular places - this shows a fundamental lack of understanding of the philosophical basis of homeschooling, indeed ALL learning as I view it. Learning is a never ending process that can and should be fostered in a multitude of ways.

Thank you.