

Submission  
No 183

## INQUIRY INTO HOME SCHOOLING

**Name:** Name suppressed

**Date received:** 8/08/2014

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Partially Confidential

To Whom it May Concern,

We have been 'homeschooling' our children for the last 6 years. My husband and myself are both professional Engineers, and made our decision to homeschool after a great deal of research and thought. There is a plethora of research available to show the positive aspects of homeschooling – one being the Carnegie (Progressive Education Association), who showed that children educated at home out performed those in a conventional classroom in a variety of measured ways. Shyer's studies showed that children educated at home were more likely to have good social skills, such as the ability to play with a range of age groups, being co-operative, and able to play with other children of a different gender and social background. Other studies, such as those by John Wesley Taylor, Mona Maarse Delahook and numerous others consistently show that home educated students are not socially deprived, but perform well in a variety of different measureable milestones. There is such an abundance of research that has been compiled, that is readily available to the public. Home education has consistently been shown to be a positive educational option, which encourages creativity and a consistently high academic achievement and social skills.

Homeschooling is a valid method of educating our children, and should be recognised as such. Homeschooling can be a lot more fluid than a classroom – there is more scope to follow a child's interests and abilities, and tailor their curriculum to their style of learning. Because of this more fluid nature, it should be recognised as such, and parents should not be expected to fill out what is often described as a burdensome amount of paperwork to register their children for homeschooling. Most parents that I personally know that homeschool their children have sacrificed their professional work placements in order to further the education of their children. They have sacrificed salary, and often the ability to progress further in their career. Every parent that I know simply wants to get on with the job of educating their children, and spend time researching the best curriculums and methods for their children. We should not be penalising this sacrifice, or inhibiting the parents in any way by expecting large amounts of paperwork and visits, which often intimidate parents and cause stress.

Sincerely,