

INQUIRY INTO HOME SCHOOLING

Name: Ms Leisel Solomon

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The Director
Select Committee on Home Schooling

In regards of the NSW State Government inquiry into homeschooling, I would like to share my concerns and also the positives of my experiences so far with Homeschooling.

I know that other people have different opinions on whether there should be a registration process at all in NSW and that it should be the same as VIC, whom if I am correct with the information I have been given, that they have a much easier process and do not have the continued process of re-registration as we do.

In my opinion I actually like parts of the NSW registration process. I think a maximum of every 2 years having to show what work we have been doing and then showing a plan for the future is really important because it shows accountability. And it also gives you someone to have a brief look and allows them to give feedback. Keeping a record of everything not only allows me to look back and see what they have achieved but in years to come they can look back as well.

However, what I would like to see is change is, if I as a parent have chosen to Home-school my child and every school receives some financial support and funding, why not the homeschooling community as well? We get now financial support, there are some who are single parents and some whom only have one income. The government saves money on my children no being in a government school.

I also feel that the Board of Studies when making decisions that they should include a representative member of the home education community. And that there be a greater awareness of the different methods of teaching.

Furthermore I feel that this statement in the 2013 homeschooling package *"Registration for home schooling requires that the educational program be delivered in the registered child's home. In assessing an application for home schooling registration, an Authorised Person must be satisfied that the education of the child, as required for registration, including for all key learning areas, will occur in the home."* needs to be removed as it totally goes against the whole reason for Homeschooling. The idea is not to be stuck in a room all day but to go out and experience life and learning outdoors and with other members of the Homeschooling Community.

Many Thanks
Liesel