

Submission
No 253

INQUIRY INTO HOME SCHOOLING

Name: Name suppressed

Date received: 6/08/2014

Partially Confidential

I would like to make a submission with regards to the classes on offer for home educators. There is an incredible variety and number of classes available and we are so fortunate to be able to access this amazing rich resource. From pottery, art, and drama to yoga, writing and tennis, there is so much that it makes school a very limited choice. My son, _____ has been going to a weekly pottery class since the beginning of the year in a class of about 6-8 (his weekly art class is very similar in size). My son gets to receive a lot of attention in a quiet class suited to his temperament, not to mention plenty of guidance from an experienced pottery teacher who is able to teach in a relaxed manner with such a small class. We are so incredibly grateful to have so much on offer, with so much to support a largely interest-led education.

Here is a letter from my son's pottery teacher,

28/07/14

To whom it may concern,

I have been working with Home-Ed students for about 3 years now. I mainly teach Pottery lessons at our local Potters Studio in East Gosford. I usually have around 10/12 students per week. In this time the children are able to learn basic pottery techniques and create pieces which are then fired and glazed, for them to take home.

I find that the students are generally polite and interested in their work. At the beginning of each term I send all parents an information page about what is expected, a program and a few rules about the studio space. Interaction amongst the students is generally good, light-hearted and caring toward each other. It is good to have the parents available to speak with if needed.

I think the students relate well to me as their pottery teacher, I like them to be able to express their creativity as freely as possible within the time we have. So far I have had very good response from most parents and students about the classes; I am pleased to be working with them.

I think the biggest challenge for me is incorporating different age groups and abilities into one class.

Thank you for requesting my input.

Sincerely,