

**Submission
No 76**

INQUIRY INTO HOME SCHOOLING

Organisation: William Campbell Foundation

Date received: 8/08/2014



**WILLIAM CAMPBELL
FOUNDATION**

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6th August 2014

The Director
Select Committee of Homeschooling
Parliament House
Macquarie Street,
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Sir/Madam,

We are a Foster Care Agency fully accredited by the New South Wales Children's Guardian and have been operating a 'Special Assistance School' for children in Out-of-Home-Care for the past 4 years.

As the Chief Executive Officer of the William Campbell Foundation, I personally support Homeschooling as I have seen it operate successfully within my own family.

I fervently believe through the knowledge and experience I have obtained in OOHC it is imperative that the Committee thoroughly investigate the demographic of disadvantaged children and parent/s as to the suitability of homeschooling for children who are currently being homeschooled for no other reason than their inability to learn, their high behavioural needs and their non acceptance as students within mainstream schooling.

It has been our experience that many children in the private sector who have suffered trauma and disability ie. ADHD, Autism, ODD, ADD, PTSD and have failed to progress in the mainstream school arena have no other choice but to remain at home to the detriment of their learning and educational opportunities. It is obvious to any observer that the parent or parents in many cases do not have the educational background nor the skills or patience to teach their children to achieve a standard of education that would prevent those children from becoming future welfare and social service recipients.

It is with profound regret that we will be closing our 'Special Assistance School' Friday 19th September 2014 due to our inability to secure State or Federal Gap Funding which would have enabled us to continue indefinitely.

However we have included two attachments - a Prospectus and a Therapeutic Approach to Education which gives an overview of our existing school's educational programs of achievement.

I implore the Committee to seriously consider the contents of our submission and find avenues for organisations such as ourselves to provide essential educational opportunities to children and young people who may fall into the category of homeschooling which may not meet their needs.

Yours sincerely,

Bill Campbell – OAM, JP
Chief Executive Officer
William Campbell Foundation

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