Submission No 255

INQUIRY INTO HOME SCHOOLING

Name: Mrs Rosanne Trevaskis

Date received: 28/08/2014

Dear Sir or Madam.

I humbly suggest that the enquiry into Home education in NSW should consider the immense value of home education to the future of Australian education and I would like to inform you of my research work on home education which was awarded an M Ed post-graduate degree in 2006 by Monash University.

Home education has been shown to be extremely effective by many independent studies in the last 20 years, both in Australia and abroad. In my research, I propose an explanation of the theoretical basis for the success of home education which is due in part to the nature of apprenticeship learning that develops between the child and the parent (or the child and the more experienced significant person). Thus learning at home utilises the powerful synergies of work-based principles whereby the parent and child become co-participants in an educational environment which is centred around the home.

Home education, being based on totally different learning principles to that of classroom education requires different guidelines and evaluation. It is particularly suited to the education of students at either end of the achievement spectrum. For these groups, home education can provide parents with an excellent educational alternative for educating their children.

I therefore submit that home education as one educational choice among many, should be allowed and encouraged by the NSW Board of Education.

If I may be of any further assistance, I am happy to be contacted and enclose my contact details;

Yours faithfully,

Rosanne Trevaskis MA (Aberdeen), MEd (Monash), PGCE (Leeds University)

HEALTHY FARMS HEALTHY FUTURES!