

## INQUIRY INTO HOME SCHOOLING

**Name:** Name suppressed

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Partially Confidential

## **LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL HOME SCHOOLING INQUIRY**

I am a mother with 2 children, one in Year 3 and another in Year 6. I think it is great there is an enquiry into home schooling and that we can have the opportunity to communicate and review the current systems for both parties. This will lead to better outcomes in all areas for both parties.

### ***(b) the current context of home schooling in New South Wales including:***

#### ***(I) outcomes of home schooling including in relation to transition to further study and work,***

I currently have a year 6 son who has been studying at home since January, he had wanted to pursue a professional career in sport for some time and the school system did not provide an option till he was competing at national level.

Since studying at home his grades have improved with one on one teaching. His sporting achievements, due to the increase in practice time, have recently given him the opportunity to compete at state level. He continues to be highly motivated to achieve his sporting goals while obtaining an education.

The benefit of home education to school is great in one aspect as he still has to complete all his work during the week and when away during competitions. We see a few of his friends competing and missing school work, the local school does not provide work to be done outside the school, thus leaving the child vulnerable to lower grades.

Another aspect of his development has increased due to been active in the community where he practices, he is maturing and developing social and communication skills with adults at a much more increased rate. We were recently applauded by some adult members of our community on his ability to hold great conversations with them.

#### ***b(ii) financial costs***

I have taken my child out of the school system and made the financial decision to be at home to teach him, my sons education is very important to me and if he can benefit from one on one teaching then that is worth my financial loss. I feel this is a big saving to the government and some of the savings to government could be passed onto the home educator. A small portion of the saving to government could go to home educators to help cover some learning materials.

#### ***b(iii) demographics and motivation of parents to home school their children,***

My husband and I travelled and worked teaching skiing for 17 years and can see the benefits an individual can have on the world when we learn about other countries and societies. We would like to pass that knowledge on to our sons and also give them the opportunity to learn and experience a world view so that in the future they can contribute greatly to society.

### ***(c)regulatory framework for home schooling including:***

***(ii) training, qualifications and experience of authorised persons***

I had success in registering for home schooling on my first application. I feel it would have been a much more beneficial process if the delegate interviewing had experience in home educating, and could talk more openly about home education.

***c(iv) potential benefits or impediments to children's safety, welfare and well being***

My son has benefited from been at home in relation to his well being. He had previously experienced some bullying and now doesn't have to be in the environment of school. We also asked for some counselling time for him to work through some emotional issues but was refused from school, been at home has allowed us to work with him on this and seek other help.

Thank you for the opportunity to express myself and my current situation with home schooling. With communication and consultation on all of the issues being discussed this will bring about more positive aspects to home schooling for the future in N.S.W.

Yours Sincerely