

## INQUIRY INTO HOME SCHOOLING

**Name:** Name suppressed

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Partially Confidential

## **LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL HOME SCHOOLING INQUIRY**

I was home schooled for all my infants and primary school years. In Year 6, I sat the selective school test and was offered a place at \_\_\_\_\_ High School, \_\_\_\_\_. I accepted that position and am currently in Year 8. In 2014, \_\_\_\_\_ High School was ranked 14<sup>th</sup> in terms of difficulty of gaining entry to the school. I would also like to say that I was not tutored for the selective school test in any way, much to the surprise of the majority of my friends. Transitioning from a small, home school environment to a large school (\_\_\_\_\_ has approximately 900 girls attending) did not overwhelm me and I was soon comfortable in my new school and was even helping the other girls to transition.

I would like to say that I value the fact that my mother home schooled me in my primary school years. In those crucial years, I received not only a wonderful education programme but also participated in many excursions and workshops as well as attending a variety of social groups. I believe that these experiences strengthened my confidence and through home schooling I was able to transition and enjoy my new school so much. I would also like to stress how many friends I had while home-schooled and how I still value those friendships today.

I was taught English and Maths on a one to one basis which I feel is ideal for these subjects. For the other Key Learning Areas, I was generally involved in groups. For example, we studied Australia in a group setting. Sometimes my mother or another parent was the teacher and at other times a teacher was hired to teach the group. I also participated in public speaking and debating groups. At one stage, I was attending a home school co-op that lasted for the entire day. This was structured along a traditional school manner including recess and lunch.

At \_\_\_\_\_ High School, I am now part of the junior debating team, in which we had to go through two sets of tryouts to be selected. I feel that the debating classes I did while home-schooled helped me with this achievement. Many of my friends come to me with their problems, seeking comfort and often call me optimistic and kind. These values were proven when I was elected as a member of the Student Representative Council (SRC), in which 23 of the 26 voting girls elected me to be the representative of their class. I have so far organised events with the SRC and have read announcements to the class as their leader. I also collect money for SRC events. I have also been chosen to represent my school at various inter school events.

In conclusion, I feel that being home schooled for a substantial part of my school life has benefited me immensely and I am very glad that I had that great opportunity. I would like

my children to have access to the opportunity of being home schooled. It is definitely a wonderful way to learn.