

Submission  
No 29

## INQUIRY INTO TEACHER SHORTAGES IN NEW SOUTH WALES

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## NSW Teacher Shortage due to Vaccine Mandate

The DoE vaccine mandates are unlawful and need to be cancelled forever and never reinstated. My school alone is suffering due to these mandates. There are three teachers at my school who cannot teach due to the mandates. Due to these shortages there has also been another three teachers who have left this year as they couldn't cope with the pressures of being short staffed. So that is six teachers from one school alone that are no longer teaching.

One position has not been able to be filled. That leaves the school with another teacher short and a full class with no teacher for the rest of the year. This class has then had to be split and put in the other two classes from the same year group. This therefore makes each class have 18 students in each. As I teach at a Distance Education school this is way above the allocated legally quota of students allowed in one class. This now creates extra stress on the teachers with the large classes, the students who will now receive less attention from their teacher due to the increased volume of students in the class. This situation is absolutely unnecessary when there are three staff members from my school sitting at home not allowed to work. These poor kids deserve better. These teacher shortages due to the mandate is nothing short of educational neglect and is all the DoEs doing.

I am now facing terrible financial hardship. I have two kids to support. One who is at University which brings with it huge financial costs. My daughter should not have to miss out on her chance to receive a tertiary education and fulfill her dream of reaching her career goals. I also have a mortgage and bills to pay. The DoE has no right to take away my ability to provide for my family as these mandates are totally unnecessary. It has been proven time and time again by endless peer reviewed research that the covid vaccine does not stop the spread of the virus. So why should the unvaccinated be punished when the vaccinated are catching covid and spreading it amongst the other staff members and kids at school? This is all a power play to punish and ruin people's lives because we didn't 'do as we were told'.

I studied hard at University to complete my teaching degree at a huge cost which I have spent years paying back. If I can no longer teach then I should be reimbursed for all my money that I spent gaining my degree. I am 47 years old and have been a teacher for 26 years. I love my job and I don't want to have to do anything else.

Teaching is a vocation and a passion and the DoE are crushing people's lives and families. It is criminal.

Where is the proof that the unvaccinated are a risk? The DoE should have to prove with are without a doubt a risk. But they can't and they haven't.

The NSW Premier has ended the mandates and the DoE should follow his directive. He is the leader and they should need to follow his directions. They are always preaching that we must follow theirs.

Who is in charge of this state? Dominic Perrottet or Sarah Mitchell?

Please end the mandates for all teachers for now and forever and let teachers go back to work immediately ready for Term 3.

You owe it to the kids. They need us. They have suffered enough.

Kind regard

Natasha Moynihan