

**Submission  
No 30**

## **INQUIRY INTO TEACHER SHORTAGES IN NEW SOUTH WALES**

**Name:** Mrs Lynette Brailey

**Date Received:** 17 June 2022

---

I have worked as a early childhood educator in a kindergarten setting for 33 years.

Note here those 33 years was at the one centre so in a way it became my second home. I have three adult children who all attended the same kindergarten and one of my adult daughters now teaches there so to be told that unless I consented to having the job I would no longer be able to work there came as a terrible shock.

I felt that it was all my fault .

I felt like all my years a dedicated service was just thrown on the scrape heap.

I felt so lost and so unsure of myself that I retreated to my home and that's where I stayed.

As a condition of trying to get my sick leave I was forced to seek my doctor to write me out a mental health plan and seek help from a psychologist.

At the age of 69 and never in my life have I had to do that I felt like I had no control of my life and certainly no control of my emotions as I cried continually for a month.

Added to that when the mental health plan ran out I had to go thru the whole drama again to secure a new one.

All along the doctor brow beating me about getting the job.

Once I saw that after the Xmas school holidays had finished in 2022 and these mandates were not going to be lifted my employer had no other option than to pay me out and say goodbye.

That hurt terribly because I was holding tightly to the thought that the mandates would surely be lifted and allow everyone back to work.

After the public health order expired this year my boss asked me to return to work. Admittedly it's under a different arrangement but I'm one of the lucky ones.

As we all know there are thousands of people still not able to work and support their families.

This is so very wrong considering in my opinion these mandates proved nothing only despair heart ache and an unforgivable treatment to our children who through no fault of their own have been denied their god given right to an education.

Two and a half years of disruption to their education will certainly bear witness when these children find themselves way behind compared to where they should be.

And in closing it beggars belief that this has been allowed to continue as long as it has when blind Freddy can see the damaging affect its having on our children.

Our children deserve no less than a happy childhood ...a good education....adults that have their best interests at heart and a future where they feel safe and secure .

We have let them down and even more sad is the government both federal and state are still letting them down today as I write this submission.

So I hope along with many other submissions you may receive that **ACTION WILL BE TAKEN NOW TO LIFT RIGHT ACROSS THE BOSTD THESE MANDATES AND FURTHER THAT EVERY EMPLOYER IS INSTRUCTED NOT TO IMPLEMENT THEIR OWN GUIDELINES RE JABBED OR NOT JABBED UPON THEIR WORKFORCE,**

This N.S.W. government transferred the onus about the no job no pay onto employers because in my opinion they were too gutless to come out and say that this policy will no longer be applicable.

Lynette Brailey