

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

Name: Name suppressed

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Partially
Confidential

I was terminated November 2021 for not complying with the vaccine mandate. I was treated like dirt by the education department and told by Sarah Mitchell to get myself another job. I have two degrees, making me qualified to teach from kindy to year 12. I have taught for 12 years and I love teaching. But Sarah Mitchell said I need to forget about my years of education and get a different job because of a medical decision I was making for myself. I was on approved sick leave, approved by my principal and by the staffing team in payroll. Then without any personal communication except for a general email to all teachers, my sick leave (while I was still on sick leave) was deleted in the system and I was not being paid. I called and was told that my contract had been terminated 3 weeks ago while I was on approved sick leave. I explained that this was unlawful and was told bad luck. Over the next 8 months I am still employed by the department of education but I am not allowed to work at any schools. I still have full access to all my department online resources and my schools as well. So I am sitting in a corner being forgotten about. At this point in time I have students coming to my house asking for help with their work because they either have PE teachers or prac teachers for their maths class and these teachers don't know how to do the work. The majority of teachers that have had the vaccine have gotten covid even though they are vaccinated. I can not comprehend that I am still sitting at home when I could be there with the students and no more a threat to anyones health than any other teacher in the school. The last 10 months have been horrible. I have gone from being around thousands on people a day to being at home by myself with nothing to do. I need to go back and teach.