



Tasmanian Home Education Advisory Council

3 Dowling Street, Launceston, Tasmania 7250
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ABN 24 541 552 357

18 August 2021

Alice Blake
Principal Policy Analyst
legislation@education.tas.gov.au

Dear Ms Blake

Thank you for the opportunity to further review the Amendment of the Education Regulation Act.

The Tasmanian Home Education Advisory Council (THEAC) have the following two primary concerns with the draft legislation:

- a) The current draft lacks detail and description surrounding the role, responsibilities, and the powers of the Director of Education; THEAC find it difficult to respond without having full insight into how home education will be impacted under the current drafting AND
- b) The role of Director of Education is not protected in this legislation and the potential future impact this may have on the home education sector. THEAC seek clarification and reassurances that the Director, or future equivalent, will be safeguarded and any changes to this role will not create instability for, or negatively impact home education in Tasmania.

While home education itself was exempt from the Review into Education Regulation, the proposed recommendations and current draft have inadvertently impacted this sector. THEAC believe Working Group Representatives were made aware of this potential impact during discussions with the former THEAC Chair shortly after the Review Recommendations were released.

As a result, THEAC are proposing the following suggestions as a way of minimising the impact on the stakeholders, while continuing to respect the recommendations.

THEAC request that the following recommendations are upheld in legislation or by way of a statement of intent in Parliament.

1. The person appointed to Director of Education, or future equivalent, will have a clear and documented **interest in, knowledge and understanding** of Home Education.
2. THEAC will have an active and clear role in the appointment process of the Director of Education, or future equivalent. THEAC were involved in the appointment process of the current Education Registrar through the Chair of the day being on the selection panel. THEAC request that this act of goodwill be formalised and honoured with all future appointments of those responsible for overseeing Home Education in Tasmania.



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Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback. Please contact Chair at chair@theac.tas.gov.au for further discussion.

Kind Regards

Denise Cox, Chair
On behalf of THEAC