

## TEMPLATE FOR HOME EDUCATORS

**Reminder:** Please edit as appropriate and add as many personalised details as possible, as it is much more effective to use your own words than duplicated templates.

Dear [MP's name],

I hope you are well. As one of your constituents, I am writing to you with great urgency about the **Children's Wellbeing and Schools Bill**, following its second reading in Parliament on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> January.

While I am sympathetic of the overall objective of the Bill, in terms of prioritising the safeguarding and wellbeing of all children and young people, the wording of the Bill will have devastating consequences for home educators like myself.

### My Background:

Tell them about your family, your **reasons** for home educating, **when** you started and **how** it is preferable for your child/young person. Include an overview of the **approach** you take - for example, autonomous, child-led, personalised, play-based, interest-led – and how this enables a young person to thrive.

You could for example, talk about prioritising mental health, wellbeing, children's rights, social justice and 21<sup>st</sup> century life skills, such as creativity, critical thinking, communication skills and collaboration. Give **examples** as to how this happens in practice, and **how** conventional schooling can restrict these opportunities.

If you need further inspiration, you could take some ideas from [our website](#), and/or share our **INSPIRE Education Summit webinars**, which include talks from the home education community.

### My Concerns:

These are the areas of the Bill that I am most concerned about...

### Urgent Amendments to the Bill:

This wording in the Bill urgently needs to be removed/changed... because...

If you need help filling in the sections above, have a look at **clauses 30-37** of the Bill for 'Independent Educational Institutions' (if your child attends a home ed learning community) and **clauses 24-29** for 'Children Not in School'.

You can also use the further resources at the bottom of our [campaign page](#) for ideas. You could even link to some of the articles/videos if any of them particularly resonate with you.

But don't worry if you really don't have time to include these sections, as a shorter letter is better than no letter at all, and your **personal story** is the most important part.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter. I would be very grateful if you could forward my concerns to Bridget Philipson, the Secretary of State for Education, on my behalf.

Optional additional request:

I'd also welcome the opportunity to talk to you further via a surgery appointment, as home education <"and school attendance difficulties" if appropriate> is often misunderstood.

I look forward to receiving your response.

Kind regards,

[Your name and postcode]