

Vraag 4 van 5

Voorgesteld wordt dat kinderen via het volgen van thuisonderwijs aan de leerplicht kunnen voldoen indien het thuisonderwijs aan minimum kwaliteitsnormen voldoet waarop de onderwijsinspectie toezicht houdt. Welke effecten verwacht u van dit voorstel? Is dit voorstel voor u in de rol van ouder, leraar of onderwijsbestuurder werkbaar? Zo nee, waarom niet? Kleven er volgens u risico's aan de voorgestelde maatregelen? Zo ja, welke?

As much as we welcome the legalisation of homeschooling in the Netherlands we are concerned about some of the measures proposed to control the quality of homeschooling. This will have an effect on highly educated and homeschooling expats and international families who come here to work and will decide NOT to come to the Netherlands, or to base themselves in the Netherlands. This proposal limits the economic contribution that we in the Netherlands would like to encourage from these families.

In particular the following measures:

- **Dutch as educational language:** foreigners do not speak Dutch when they first come to the Netherlands but they will still want to keep homeschooling. Moreover, since most expats, or digital entrepreneurs decide or will have to leave again after a couple of years, it will be in the interest of these children and families to keep using their home language as the primary educational language.

- **The Netherlands as education location:** this is a naive measure, as foreigners who come to live and work in the Netherlands travel a lot throughout the world and are often joined by their children on educational journeys. What better way to learn about the Renaissance than in Florence, World War I than in Verdun, Newton in Cambridge, Computers in Silicon Valley, multinationalism at the World Economic Forum in Davos. These are real homeschooling examples, and a measure of how education can be connected, contextualised and rich, rather than rigid, narrow and focussed on testing. To limit education to the Netherlands is not only naive, but will keep expat and international families away.

- **Unannounced visits at home:** nowhere in the 'civilised' world is it common to carry out unannounced home visits without a proven suspicion of a criminal offence. It is unacceptable that homeschoolers, or anyone should be 'threatened' with this measure.

- **Bachelor as minimum educational level of homeschooling parent:** although we are not effected ourselves, with Phds, MBA, and Engineering Degrees in our families this measure does not reflect by any means the research of more than 30 years of homeschooling history in the US with 2 million children currently homeschooled, and in other countries. Homeschoolers educational and social performance are not correlated to the educational level the parent. The act of homeschooling is a deep commitment, of time, and a lot of effort. Any person, committed to homeschooling can effectively coach a student to high educational levels. This is especially true in today's world where there is

plenty of high level educational material available to everybody with an Internet connection. Thus, the measure should not be included in the law. Very few parents today can do advanced calculus, which is why the Kahn Academy and 1.5 million other Google sites that appear when your search on "teaching advanced calculus", as well as the more than 100 000 videos are a great resource.