

**VISIT BY STUDENTS AND PARENTS OF THE
HOBART HOME EDUCATION COMMUNITY
REMARKS BY
HER EXCELLENCY THE HONOURABLE BARBARA BAKER AC
GOVERNOR OF TASMANIA
DRAWING ROOM, THURSDAY 24 AUGUST 2023**

Good morning and a very warm welcome to Government House.

I pay my respects to the traditional and original owners of this land: the palawa people. I acknowledge the contemporary Tasmanian Aboriginal community and recognise their enduring culture and continued connection to land, sea, and waters.

The Hobart Home Education Community has been in operation for more than 20 years. This longevity is a testament to the commitment of all those involved. The desire of members of your community was to move outside the mainstream schooling system. You aimed to embrace some different styles of pedagogy, including natural learning, Classical and Montessori. Your aim, I believe, was to fit a philosophy to the particular student's learning style. You thereby provide a "student tailored" educational experience.

There are now more than 1450 students from 850 families around our State who have chosen to home school. I understand that around half of these students reside in the south of our State, mainly in and around Hobart.

I understand that students mix regularly with their peers and that your community regularly organizes excursions, such as this one to Government House. You also organise rock climbing, swimming, and other recreational activities.

Shortly, you will be taken on a tour of some of the principal rooms of Government House. I encourage you to ask questions and to learn more about this beautiful and historic building.

Now, I look forward to speaking with you and let us enjoy some refreshments.

Thank you.