

Homeschooled Students

Policy No. 304.1R

REGULATIONS

FORM: REGISTRATION FORM – HOMESCHOoled STUDENTS

1. Guiding Document:

Ministry of Education ‘Homeschooling Procedures & Guidelines Manual’

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/education/kindergarten-to-grade-12/support/homeschooling/homeschooling-procedures-and-guidelines.pdf>

2. Home Education Definitions

Provincial On-Line Schools:

Students are registered with a K-12 On-Line Provincial School. These students are supervised by their parent/guardian, but the education program is developed and supported on-line by a BC Certified teacher. Students are eligible for a BC Certificate of Graduation (Dogwood Diploma) through programming offered by provincial on-line schools.

Home Education through Homeschool:

Homeschooled students are registered with a public school, but have all educational programming and supervision done by their parent/guardian. The parent/guardian creates and delivers their own curriculum and all learning activities. SD91 teachers are not involved in the education program, but may, from time to time and upon request, assist parents/guardians with an assessment of current learning. Students who remain in homeschooling in grades 10-12 are not eligible for a BC Certificate of Graduation (Dogwood Diploma).

3. Registration Process

3.1 Registration with Provincial On-Line Schools

Families wishing to register with a provincial on-line school should contact the school directly for more information and current registration process.

3.2 Registration for Homeschooled Students

3.2.1. Parents/Guardians are required to register their child(ren) at a public school, noting their intent to homeschool as per Section 13 of the *School Act*. Ideally this should be done before September 30th of each school year, but registration can occur during other times of the year. Moving to homeschooled education will affect your child(ren)’s out-of-catchment registration at a regular SD91 school.

Step 1:

- Review the SD91 Homeschooled Students Policy & Regulations
- Review the *School Act* and School Regulation on Home Education
- Review the Ministry of Education's website on Homeschooling and their 'Homeschooling Procedures & Guidelines Manual'

Step 2:

- Contact the school principal/vice principal to discuss possible resources and supports available to homeschooled children as per the provincial regulations
- Principals/Vice Principals should ensure families understand the differences between registering with an on-line learning program and homeschooling

Step 3:

- Fill out a SD91 'Registration Form – Homeschooled Students'
- Fill out a SD91 'Out-of-District File Request' or 'In-District File Request' form, if not a regular student
- Schools are to provide a photocopy of the completed registration form to the parent/guardian

3.2.2. Schools are to register homeschooled students regardless if student is in-catchment or out-of-catchment.

3.2.3. Schools are to record 'HS' in the grade code field. Schools must report homeschool registrations to the Ministry of Education on the Student Data Collection Form (1701).

3.2.4. Schools should request records for newly registered homeschooled students to ensure the school becomes the school of record, as required.

3.2.5. Under Section 13 of the *School Act*, the Superintendent of Schools has an obligation through *Ministerial Order 151/89* to follow up on any reports received that a child who is being educated at home who may not be registered.

4. Educational Program

4.1. The Education Program of the homeschooled student is the full responsibility of the parent/guardian, the program is not supervised by a BC certified teacher, not required to follow the provincial curriculum, and is not inspected by the Ministry of Education.

4.2. Registered homeschooled students in grades 10-12 may enroll in on-line learning courses offered by the public school and retain their homeschool status as per Section 3 of the School Regulation.

4.3. Registered homeschool students, in certain circumstances, be able to audit a course (not for credit), while retaining their registered homeschooled status as per Section 2 of the School Regulation.

5. Educational Services

5.1. Only children who are registered with the school as a homeschooled student are eligible for Education Services.

5.2. Registered homeschooled students are eligible for the following Educational Services as per Section 3 of the the School Regulation:

- Loan of educational materials that are, in the opinion of the Board of Education, sufficient to enable the child to pursue their educational program (i.e., access to library resources, teaching materials, science equipment, etc.); and,
 - a) A deposit may be required for resources with significant value (i.e., microscope over \$100 in value)
- Offer evaluation and assessment services free of charge for the parent/guardian to determine the homeschooled child's progress in relation to students of similar age and ability (i.e., FSA, provincial assessments for numeracy or literacy, etc.).

5.3. Schools can choose to offer the following services:

- the option to consult as an educational consultant on educational programming;
- the option to access transition planning to post-secondary;
- the option to audit courses (not for credit), fee schedule to be decided by the Board of Education; or,
- the option to access supplemental learning opportunities and resources (i.e., field trips, assemblies, sports teams, music groups, etc.).

5.3.1. Homeschooled students participating in extra-curricular activities shall be subject to school codes of conduct, regulations, and fees, and include school approval, payment of fees and completion of permission forms. Homeschooled student involvement should not deny participation to any student enrolled and regularly in attendance.

6. Student Information Disclosure for Health and Well-being

6.1. In accordance with the 'Student Records Disclosure Order' of Section 3 of the *School Act* and the 'Student Records Order', Section 6 of the *School Act*, public schools are required to disclose student records (including those of registered homeschooled students) to someone who is planning for the delivery of health services, social services or other services to the student. This includes providing health authorities with records in relation to Vaccination Status Reporting.

6.2. School District No. 91 (Nechako Lakes) adheres to all privacy laws.

6.3. Schools should ensure that homeschool families are aware of health and wellness resources (i.e., Ministry of Education ERASE website, etc.) and ensure that they receive relevant health and wellness updates from the Ministry of Education.

6.4. Schools can offer registered homeschool families to the option to receive routine health and wellness communications.