

HOMESCHOOLING

What is Homeschooling?

Homeschooling is an alternative method of learning where the parent/guardian delivers an educational program to children at home. Homeschooling allows children to work at their own pace and parents to blend family, life and schoolwork into their own schedule.

Homeschooling is the full responsibility of the parent/guardian and is not supervised by a B.C. certified teacher. The parent/guardian is responsible for selecting the education resource materials, as well as planning, delivering, and assessing the educational program.

Students attending public schools are in classrooms for close to 5 hours per day, so the decision to homeschool is a significant responsibility and requires extensive commitment. If parents/guardians are able to meet these commitments, homeschooling can be a rich and rewarding experience.

How is Homeschooling different from Online Learning?

Homeschooling is a separate and distinct educational option from online learning. Students registered in online learning engage in an educational program that is supervised by a B.C. certified teacher. This includes planning, selecting educational resource materials, facilitating learning activities, and assessing learning. When a student is registered in homeschooling, the parent/guardian is responsible for these activities.

Do I have to register my child if I am Homeschooling them?

Yes. All children in British Columbia must be registered in an educational program by September 30th of each year, whether that be online learning, homeschooling, or in-class learning. Parents choosing to homeschool their children can register them for homeschooling at their local school.

Can my child receive a BC Graduation Diploma (Dogwood) through Homeschooling?

Registered homeschoolers are not eligible to receive a BC Graduation Diploma (Dogwood) through homeschooling alone. Youth eligible to enrol in Grades 10, 11, or 12 may enrol in Grades 10–12 online learning courses offered by a public or independent online learning school, while remaining registered as a homeschooler. Course credit towards graduation may be earned in this manner.

Is there any support that my local school can provide with Homeschooling?

Homeschooling is the full responsibility of the parent. Your local school does not supervise, deliver, or assess the educational program of children who registered for homeschooling.

Your local school can offer the following supports:

- Evaluation and assessment services to determine the child's educational progress in relation to students of similar age and ability
- The loan of educational resource materials authorized and recommended by the Minister of Education, and which, in the school district's opinion, are sufficient to enable the child to pursue his/her educational program.

If I decide to homeschool my child, will the school hold my child's placement in the school in case we decide to return in-class learning?

Class organizations are determined based on school enrolment in September. If a child returns to in-class learning from homeschooling during the year, the school will try to accommodate the child if the school has available space. The school cannot hold or guarantee a placement for students who register for homeschooling for the 2021-2022 school year. Parents can re-register children at the school the following year.

For more information:

For more information on homeschooling, or to help you decide if homeschooling is the right option for your child, please see the links below:

- [Homeschooling Policy](#)
- [Online Learning Policy – Homeschoolers \(Interim\)](#)
- [Homeschooling Procedures and Guidelines Manual](#)
- [Appendix to the Homeschooling Manual: Legislative Requirements and Better Practise Guidelines \(Summary by Key Topic\)](#)
- [B.C. Home Educator's Association](#)