

Title: **Home Schooling**

Category: **Education**

Number: **1160**

**Circulating until February 2, 2019**

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**I. Rationale:**

Parents have many options available to them in order to provide an educational program for their child. Under the School Act, a parent may choose to provide their child with an education outside of a public or an independent school. 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, is not supervised by a British Columbia certified teacher, is not required to meet provincial standards, and is not inspected by the Ministry of Education.

**II. Definition:**

Homeschool means that a person having guardianship of a minor between six (6) and eighteen (18) years of age accepts the responsibility for providing the education of such student at home in accordance with law instead of having the minor attend a public or independent school. The Ministry of Education's policy on Home School Education can be found at <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/ways-to-learn/homeschooling>.

**III. Parent Responsibilities:**

A parent, guardian, or other person having custody over a school-age student who resides in School District No. 46 and who wishes to homeschool must inform their local school of their intent to homeschool their school-age child and register with that school by September 30<sup>th</sup> of each school year.

**IV. Board and District Responsibilities:**

School District No. 46 will register the child as a homeschooler. The school will provide free of charge:

A. Evaluation and assessment services to determine the child's educational progress in relation to students of similar age and ability

B. 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. Replacement costs will be charged for damaged books or books not returned to the school at the end of the school year. Parents may choose to purchase the necessary textbooks from available suppliers.

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C. It is important to note that homeschooled students are not eligible to receive a British Columbia Dogwood Graduation Certificate.

**V. Reentry to District Schools**

In the interest of determining an appropriate replacement and curriculum, students who have been involved in home-schooling who choose to reenter the public schools of School District No. 46 will be admitted under the same entrance requirements as other students entering the district schools. The student will be placed by the school principal after consulting with parents. These requirements apply to all entering students whether part-time or full-time.

A. At the principal's discretion, the principal may use placement tests, parent consultation and other evidence of student progress to assist in proper grade level placement and placement in specialized programs. Appeals will be handled by the regular district appeal process.

B. Credit requests for home instruction will be evaluated by the district in accordance with regular acceptance criteria.

**Received:**

**References:**