

ITEM HOME EDUCATION

POLICY The *Education Act* states that parents of a compulsory school aged child must enrol that child in a school or 'may provide education for the child, which is efficient and suitable'.

To provide home education:

- (a) the parent shall obtain the consent in writing of the Chief Executive before providing such education for the child; and
- (b) whether such education is efficient and suitable or not shall be a matter for the decision of the Chief Executive who may, if he thinks fit, obtain a report on the education by a person authorized by him in writing to do so. ' (Education Act, Section 21: 2a and 2b).

All inquiries about home schooling should be directed to the Schools Division who will forward application forms to the parent.

The delegation for final approval of applications for home education is with the General Manager Schools, based on

- the initial application
- advice from the Director, Curriculum Services, or his delegate, on the program outlined in the application
- a home visit report written by the local principal or a Schools Division officer.

An interim approval is granted upon receipt of the application (applications normally take up to six weeks to process). Final approvals are valid for twelve months. At the expiration of this period, a new application must be submitted. The parent is also required to submit a portfolio of the child's work to the Schools Division at the end of each school year.

It should be noted that Departmental personnel are not available to assist parents in the actual provision of home education such as accessing the current curriculum, writing programs and obtaining teaching materials.

Contact Officers	General Manager Schools Division North
Telephone	8999 5642 or 8999 5619
or	General Manager Schools Division South
Telephone	8951 7023