

HOME LEARNING OPTIONS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

If you decide to educate your child(ren) at home and are a resident of B.C. you can choose from either of the following two options: Homeschooling and Online Learning.

What are the Differences Between Homeschooling and Online Learning?

Homeschooling

Parents/guardian(s) register their child(ren) as homeschoolers through a school in their neighborhood

Parent/guardian(s) are completely responsible for the educational program

Parent/guardian(s) directs and supervises the educational program

Not required to meet provincial standards or follow provincial curriculum

No inspection by the Ministry of Education

No requirement to take standardized tests

BC Dogwood graduation certificate is NOT provided

Registering schools may provide educational resources and assessment materials to the parents

Online Learning (Distributed Learning)

Parent/guardian(s) withdraw their child(ren) from their neighborhood school and enroll their child(ren) in a public or independent Online Learning School

Online learning educational program is the responsibility of the public or independent Online Learning School

Parent/guardian(s) are not the teachers but assist in facilitating learning as a B.C. certified teacher directs and supervises the child's learning program

Must meet provincial standards and follow provincial curriculum

Students will receive regular assessments and report cards with letter grades or performance indicators that are attached to the permanent student record

School districts receive the same annual per-pupil funding that is received for any other student enrolled in a school.

For More Information Contact:

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WHAT IS HOMESCHOOLING?

Homeschooling is a classroom alternative offered outside of the B.C. educational system. Typically, a home educator (e.g. a parent or guardian) delivers the entire educational program to children at home. Homeschoolers are not eligible to receive a BC Dogwood Graduation Diploma (if homeschooled until Gr.12).

Homeschooling programs are NOT

- Supervised by a B.C. certified teacher
- Required to meet provincial standards
- Inspected by the Ministry of Education and Child Care

Parent Responsibilities

Homeschooling comes with great responsibility – choosing this option means parents must provide and supervise their child’s entire educational program, including curriculum and learning materials.

By law, all children in B.C. must be educated, making it necessary for homeschooled children to be registered.

Parent/guardian(s) who choose to homeschool must register their child by **September 30 of EACH year**.

School and District Responsibilities

The principal must register the child of any parent who wished his/her child to be educated at home.

The school principal will offer the homeschooled child or their parents free of charge:

- 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

Specific to Indigenous Curriculum

Registered homeschoolers are free to design their child’s educational program in any way they see fit, and there are a growing number of excellent resources by Indigenous creators, that many homeschoolers are incorporating into their programs.

Homeschooling Support Resources

BC Home Educator’s Association

<https://bchea.ca/>

Homeschooling – Procedures & Guidelines Manual

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



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WHAT IS ONLINE LEARNING?

Online Learning is a classroom alternative. It used to be called distributed learning. With this style of learning, students can:

- Connect with their B.C. certified teacher from anywhere in B.C. using the internet, phone or mail
- Work with their teacher to reach goals in their learning plan
- Take a program or course online or by web conferencing, teleconferencing, correspondence, etc
- Get support through opportunities for in-person learning and interactions with other students

Flexibility for students. Students will be able to sign up for online learning with a Provincial Online Learning School or their District Online Learning School (if applicable).

Learning from home. B.C. has a long history of helping students learn from home successfully. Online learning continues to provide a flexible option for students to learn from home that meets provincial education standards.

Parent Responsibilities

- Families enroll their child with a Public or Independent Online Learning School and withdraw from the neighborhood school
- Parent/guardian(s) are not the teachers but are required to supervise and facilitate the learning at home

Specific to Indigenous Curriculum

Indigenous curriculum is woven into the educational programming offered by Online Schools as the curriculum follows provincial curriculum.

Many Online Learning Schools offer students who identify as being of Aboriginal ancestry with Indigenous resources, funding, tutoring support and cultural events.

Online Learning Resource

Online Learning BC

<https://search.onlinelearningbc.com/>



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