



BOARD POLICY	
<i>Policy Section</i> STUDENTS	<i>Policy Number</i> 823
<i>Administrative Procedure Number</i> AP-S-823	<i>Page</i> 1 of 4

POLICY TITLE

Home Schooling

1.0 PURPOSE

The Peterborough Victoria Northumberland and Clarington Catholic District School Board is committed to a parent/guardian's right to provide home schooling for his or her child(ren).

2.0 POLICY

It is the policy of the Peterborough Victoria Northumberland and Clarington Catholic District School Board that a student of compulsory age may be excused from attendance at school if the student is receiving satisfactory instruction at home or elsewhere. If there are reasonable grounds to suspect that this is not occurring, it is the duty of the Board to investigate.

3.0 GUIDELINES

- 3.1 As mandated by Ministry of Education Policy/Program Memorandum No. 131, Home Schooling, the parent/guardian shall provide written notification to the principal of the intent to participate in home schooling. The principal shall forward a copy of parent/guardian notification to the superintendent of schools.
- 3.2 The principal shall acknowledge, in writing, the parent/guardian's letter of intent to provide home schooling. A copy of the acknowledgement shall be forwarded to the superintendent of schools.
- 3.3 The parent/guardian shall provide annual written notification to the principal of the intent to provide home schooling. The principal shall forward a copy of the annual notification to the superintendent of schools.

- 3.4 The principal shall acknowledge annually, in writing, the parent/guardian's letter of intent, and send a copy of the acknowledgement to the superintendent of schools.
- 3.5 The principal shall ensure that the School Register and Ontario School Record indicate home schooling.
- 3.6 If there are reasonable grounds to believe that the student is not receiving satisfactory instruction at home, the Board shall take steps to determine whether the instruction is satisfactory.
- (a) Reasonable grounds may include:
- (i) refusal of a parent to notify the Board in writing of the intent to provide home schooling;
 - (ii) a history of absenteeism by the child prior to the parent's notifying the Board of the intent to provide home schooling;
 - (iii) evidence that the child was removed from attendance at school, not for the purpose of home schooling, but because of ongoing conflicts with the school;
 - (iv) a credible report of concern by a third party with respect to the instruction being provided in the home.

4.0 TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

4.1 HOME SCHOOLING

The parent(s)/guardian(s) are providing instruction to one or more of their children at home.

4.2 SATISFACTORY INSTRUCTION

(a) Relating to Process

- (i) availability of a written plan for instructing the student "at home or elsewhere" showing how the program is to be organized, scheduled, and evaluated,

- (ii) availability in the “home or elsewhere” of texts and other learning materials appropriate to the developmental growth of the student,
- (iii) availability of samples of the student’s work, of a quantity and quality to indicate a regular and suitable program for instruction.

(b) Relating to Achievement

- (i) assessment of educational growth of the student is based on:
 - review of program and materials;
 - discussion with the student and parent/guardian;
 - examination of written work of the student;
 - evidence of socialization with peers in educational, social, or recreational settings.

4.3 PLACEMENT

It is understood that placement in a particular course or grade will not ensure successful completion of that course or grade.

5.0 REFERENCES/RELATED DOCUMENTS

Education Act, Subsections 21(1), 21(2), 21(5), 24(1), 24(2), 30(7)
Education Act, Sections 25, 26, 30
Ontario Ministry of Education Policy/Program Memorandum No. 131
Ontario Schools, Kindergarten to Grade 12, Policy and Program Requirements,
2011 (OS)

6.0 RELATED POLICIES

Policy 824, Instruction Out-of-School

7.0 RELATED FORMS

Notification of Intent to Provide Home Schooling (Appendix A)
Response to Parent/Guardian re Intent to Provide Home Schooling (Appendix B)
Home Schooling Information (Appendix C)
School Register
Board October Report
Ontario Student Record (O.S.R.)

8.0 APPROVED BY BOARD

September 28, 2004

9.0 EFFECTIVE DATE

January 22, 2013

10.0 POLICY REVIEW DATE

January 2018

11.0 REVIEW BY

Learning Support Services