



## E. LINKING HOME AND SCHOOL

We share a common interest in ensuring that your child(ren) have a productive learning experience. We encourage you to maintain contact with your community school.

**The following contacts may be of use:**

**For copies of school curriculum:**

Publication Ontario - (416) 326-5300

**York Region District School Board Website:**

[www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca](http://www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca)

**Ministry of Education Website:**

[www.edu.gov.on.ca](http://www.edu.gov.on.ca)

**Independent Learning Centre Website:**

<http://ilc.edu.gov.on.ca>

**For further information please contact the  
Attendance Counsellor  
at your local Community Education Centre.**

**York Region District School Board  
Coordinator of Attendance and Counselling Services  
60 Wellington Street West, Box 40  
Aurora, Ontario L4G 3H2  
(905) 727-0022 (416) 969-7170  
Fax: (905) 727-6262**

# HOME SCHOOLING GUIDELINES FOR PARENTS (Procedure NP 357.01)

## Satisfactory Instruction at Home



# IF YOU ARE CONSIDERING HOME SCHOOLING (SATISFACTORY INSTRUCTION AT HOME)

## A. DEFINITION

Home Schooling, which is referred to as Satisfactory Instruction at Home in the *Education Act*, is the education of a child of compulsory school age "at home or elsewhere", apart from any registration of that child in a school operated by a district school board.

The *Education Act*, Section 21 (2) (a) states: "A child is excused from attendance at school if the child is receiving satisfactory instruction at home or elsewhere".

A copy of Policy/Program Memorandum No. 131 (PPM 131) regarding the revised policy for home schooling, can be found on the Ministry of Education website ([www.edu.gov.on.ca](http://www.edu.gov.on.ca)).

## B. SOME POINTS TO PONDER:

- Consider both the academic and social wishes and needs of your child(ren)
- Be confident that the decision is made in the best interests of your child(ren).
- Consider the age of your child(ren) and the complexity of the curriculum requirements for children of that age.
- Be sure that both parent(s) or guardian(s) are fully committed to undertaking this responsibility.
- Be prepared to assume total responsibility for providing satisfactory instruction for your child(ren) at home or elsewhere.
- Consider and discuss with the principal the possible problems of reintegration if your child(ren) returns to the school system.
- Please bear in mind the need to balance a child's academic achievement with opportunities to experience the social world. Related educational experiences such as field trips, arts presentations and multicultural explorations are important parts of a child's development.

## C. STATEMENT OF INTENT

1. The parent(s)/guardian(s) must notify the York Region District School Board of their intent to home school their child(ren). The written notification should include the names, ages, gender of each child as well as the home address and telephone number.
2. The written notification should be provided to the local school or office of the Coordinator of Attendance and Counselling Services, prior to the beginning of the school year or the anticipated implementation date of home schooling.
3. Yearly notification is required for subsequent years of home schooling prior to the beginning of each school year.
4. The Coordinator of Attendance and Counselling Services will provide a letter to the parents acknowledging receipt of their intent to home school letter.
5. Parent(s)/guardian(s) who wish for their child to be participate in EQAO testing, must advise the school board by September 1st of the school year in which EQAO testing is performed (Grades 3, 6, 9 and 10).

## D. BOARD INVESTIGATIONS OF HOME SCHOOLING

Where there are reasonable grounds to be concerned that the instruction provided in the home may not be satisfactory, the York Region District School Board may investigate the matter.

In conducting an investigation, the York Region District School Board may have one or more of its officials meet with parent(s)/guardian(s) and/or parent(s)/guardian(s) may be requested to submit a home schooling plan.

Where the Board is unable to determine whether a child is receiving satisfactory instruction, it may request the Provincial School Attendance Counsellor to inquire into the case under sub-section 24 (2) of the *Education Act*, R.S.O. 1990.