

WHAT DOES BCHEA DO?

- Provides information to parents, support groups, school districts, independent schools, lawyers, Ministry of Education, social workers, and the general public
- Liaises with Ministry of Education regarding legislation, policies, and regulations
- Promotes and upholds people's right to homeschool via Sections 12 and 13 of the School Act
- Holds seminars and workshops
- Distributes information to members through a newsletter
- Provides consultation by phone or email
- Posts articles and information of interest to home learning families on the BCHEA website

WHY JOIN BCHEA?

Do you value the freedom to homeschool your children in the natural setting of the family?

Do you value the option to create a learning plan with and for your child without government or teacher involvement?

Do you value the ability to tailor your educational plan to the passions of your children and the goals of your family?

Do you value your children being able to grow as learners according to their own individual developmental timelines without comparison to others or being subjected to standardized tests?

JOIN WITH THE BCHEA AND FAMILIES THROUGHOUT BRITISH COLUMBIA TO PROMOTE AND PROTECT OUR FREEDOM TO HOMESCHOOL!

It's easy to become a BCHEA member. Please take a few minutes to visit our website at www.bchea.ca and fill in our online membership form. You are welcome to send your fee payment either by PayPal or by cheque. We'd love to have you join us.

WHAT IS BCHEA?

BCHEA is a registered non-profit society dedicated to the protection of the family's freedom to educate children at home under Sections 12 and 13 of the BC School Act. Incorporated as a society in February 1988, BCHEA has the continuing mandate to preserve and protect the legal option to home educate our children within the province of British Columbia.

BCHEA positively influenced the British Columbia School Act in 1989. We believe BC has developed the most progressive home education legislation in Canada.

BCHEA is recognized by the Ministry of Education as an organization through which the Ministry can communicate with registered home educators.

WHAT IS BCHEA'S PHILOSOPHY?

BCHEA represents home educators from many walks of life and diverse religious and philosophical backgrounds. Parents who assume the responsibility for their child's education all have the same need for information and support. BCHEA is dedicated to providing that support and protecting your freedom to home educate with minimal government involvement.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Get involved! Please visit the BCHEA website today and become a member. Anyone who is interested in preserving Section 12 registration as an option, whether they currently register or enrol, is welcome to join. The annual membership fee (by donation) helps the BCHEA continue this important advocacy work.



British Columbia
Home Educators' Association
446 Community Road
Sayward, BC V0P 1R0
1.866.444.2299
www.bchea.ca

HOME LEARNING IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

An information sheet about the
BCHEA, home learning, and the
options and requirements for
educating your child at home

PROMOTING AND PROTECTING
THE FREEDOM TO HOMESCHOOL



GLOSSARY OF IMPORTANT TERMS

REGISTRATION: Refers to registering a child with a BC school authority as homeschooled under Section 12 of the BC School Act; the parent is solely responsible for a child's educational program and is not required to follow the BC Curriculum.

HOME EDUCATION: The term used in the BC School Act to describe Section 12 registered homeschooling.

HOMESCHOOLING: The term used in Ministry of Education policy to describe Section 12 registration only.

ENROLMENT: Refers to enrolling a child in a Distributed Learning (DL) school; a BC-certified teacher is in charge of the child's education program, which must conform to provincial standards.

DL STUDENT: The term used by the Ministry of Education to describe any child who is enrolled in a DL school.

HOME LEARNING OR HOME-BASED LEARNING: Terms used by families whose children are learning at home, whether registered under Section 12 or enrolled in a DL school.

For more information about homeschooling in BC or the BCHEA, or to become a BCHEA member, please visit our website at:



www.bchea.ca

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ARE YOU INTERESTED IN HOME LEARNING?

HERE IS SOME INFORMATION THAT MAY HELP YOU MAKE YOUR DECISION.

WHY HAVE YOUR CHILD LEARN AT HOME?

- Individualized approach and materials
- Individualized attention
- Access to activities and facilities available during daytime hours
- Facilitation of positive peer relationships
- Maintenance of strong family ties
- Ability to educate your child according to your personal philosophy of education

WHAT DOES THE GOVERNMENT REQUIRE?

By law, all children between the ages of six and 16 must be registered or enrolled by September 30th of each year at:

- a public or Francophone school in BC,
- an independent school in BC, or
- a Distributed Learning school in BC

You can decide to homeschool at any time of the year by requesting any school to register your child as a homeschooler.

HOME LEARNING IN BC

If you decide to educate your child(ren) at home and are a resident of British Columbia you can choose from either of the following two options:

1. Register your child as a homeschool student through any public or Francophone school, or through an independent school offering this service. You are responsible for providing your child with an educational program.
2. Enrol in a Distributed Learning school administered by a public or independent school authority. You must use a packaged or self-designed curriculum approved by the school.

WHAT ARE THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN REGISTRATION AND ENROLMENT?

REGISTRATION (HOMESCHOOLING)

- Register your child(ren) as homeschooling through a school that provides for registration (see our website for a list)
- Parents or guardians are completely responsible for the educational program
- Parent directs and supervises educational program
- Not required to meet provincial standards or follow provincial curriculum
- No inspection by Ministry of Education
- No requirement to take standardized tests
- BC Dogwood graduation certificate not provided

An independent school receives \$175 per HS child whereas a public school receives \$250. These funds are for administration of the registration of a child and may be used for offering educational resources and assessment materials to the parents.

To receive a Ministry examination (not course) mark, HS children may write the English 12 Provincial Exam at their registering school.

ENROLMENT (DISTRIBUTED LEARNING)

- Enrol in a public or independent school Distributed Learning Program
- DL program is the responsibility of public/independent school
- Parents are not the teachers but may assist in facilitating learning as a BC-certified teacher directs and supervises the child's learning program
- Must meet provincial standards and follow provincial curriculum
- Will receive regular assessments and report cards with letter grades or performance indicators that are attached to a permanent student record

School districts receive the same annual per-pupil funding that is received for any other student enrolled in a school. Independent schools receive either 50% or 35% of the per-pupil funding allocated to a public school.

Public schools can provide a secular program only. Independent schools may incorporate faith-based curriculum.



PROMOTING AND PROTECTING
THE FREEDOM TO REGISTER AS
SECTION 12 HOMESCHOOLERS