

Home schooling

Key messages for schools

I want to home school my child/ren

Can you tell me why you're considering home education? Likely to be concern of COVID-19

I'm concerned about my kids getting COVID-19

I understand your concern. COVID-19 has made all of us feel uneasy. I can assure you that we are well prepared and have measures in place to minimise the risk of spread in our school community.

We are following the latest health advice and are regularly monitoring the situation.

Our school is regularly cleaning surfaces and resources, getting everyone to sanitise or wash their hands adults (and students if secondary school) are wearing masks, where required to do so in line with public health directions.

All school staff are double dose vaccinated and will get their booster when eligible.

Parents and carers who volunteer regularly at school are double dose vaccinated, as are contractors who provide services to schools.

Schools are keeping classrooms well-ventilated – this helps minimise the risk of COVID-19 transmission.

Information about the benefits of school-based education

Learning in the classroom is the best place for your child/ren to get their education.

At school they have the benefits of being taught by trained teachers and interacting with friends every day.

At school your child/ren have access to specialist equipment and learning facilities not easily replicated at home.

Being at school helps them to better learn and feel connected. It can be isolating for them at home.

You should also be aware that if you choose to register for home education your child will no longer be enrolled in their school. If they were to return to school you would have to apply to enrol them and their enrolment would be prioritised under the Enrolment Policy. The only school your child would be guaranteed a place is at their local area intake school.

Do you still want to consider home education?

Allow me to give you some information regarding home education for your consideration so you can make an informed decision.

Providing home education for your child/ren is a significant commitment.

When you register for home education, you are taking on the legal and financial responsibility of educating your child/ren. Your child will be registered under the School Education Act 1999 which will then make you fully responsible for delivering your child/children's education program.

Home education is a significant commitment. You will be responsible for planning lessons, delivering lessons, and assessing student progress. Home education programs should align with the Western Australian Curriculum.

As the home educator you are also responsible for obtaining resources for the program at your own expense. It's important that you understand the Department of Education does not provide funding or resources to home educators.

To ensure your education program is sufficient, the home educator is required to demonstrate to a moderator what progress has been made by the child. For new home educators the first evaluation takes place within 3 months of registration.

Home education is designed to be a long-term arrangement, not a temporary period. So, if it is just for a short time, it is not the best option right now.

Keeping your children at home and trying to home school them can be disruptive to their learning. It can also be very stressful for you if you are trying to work (or look after young children) at the same time.

Making a decision

Prior to making your decision, I encourage you to access the legal and registration information on the Department's website:

<http://det.wa.edu.au/homeeducation/detcms/navigation/registration/>

If you choose to go ahead with home education, it is important you understand that we will no longer provide support as your child wouldn't be one of our students anymore.

If you decide to proceed, you can contact our Education Regional Office.