



Homeschooling FAQ

2020/2021

Frequently Asked Questions

When entering a Home Education Program with Sturgeon Public Schools it is important to connect directly with our intake staff to become familiar with the process and to efficiently answer questions you may have for your children. Here are a few common general questions we answer frequently.

1. Does Sturgeon Public support parents choosing to unschool under the parent led option?

Unschooling can be a fantastic experience for children and families. However, the Home Education Regulation 89/2019 for Alberta outlines that a home education program will enable a child to meet the outcomes within the Alberta Programs of Study. In our experience, this is best accomplished through parents and teachers creating a learning plan to address specific outcomes during the year. There is great flexibility in how a family would choose to address those outcomes.

2. Are facilitators able to access ADLC courses for students in the parent led option?

For the 2020/2021 school year, parents wishing to enroll in Blended programs will be able to access teacher led instruction through Sturgeon Public Schools. All teachers in Alberta have access to the full course ware from ADLC and teachers may choose to use that material during instruction if it is best suited for the child's needs.

3. Will facilitators help create/adjust the learning plan when starting out or does it need to be submitted with the notification form?

A facilitator will meet with each family to discuss and support the creation of a learning plan. This process works well if the family reads through the learning template and has ideas on how they would like to achieve their child's success.

4. Do parents need to use the learning plan template from the division or can they use their own format?

It is strongly recommended that parents use the provided learning plan template. However, when meeting with a homeschool facilitator, a parent may propose a different format. This alternative format will still need to provide the relevant information included in the template.





5. Does Sturgeon Public have a reimbursement schedule or can receipts be submitted at any time?

Our Handbook provides greater detail, but in general we ask that receipts be submitted in batches no smaller than \$100.

6. Is it preferred that receipts be collected and submitted all at once?

It is encouraged that receipts be collected and submitted in larger batches. However, it is also important not to wait until the end of the program to submit receipts.

7. Can items for more than one child be on the same receipt as long as it is noted on each child's reimbursement form?

Items for more than one child may exist on the same receipt. We do ask that that child's initials are indicated on the receipt and the appropriate expense is noted and accounted for on each child's reimbursement form.

8. Are there any additional curriculum/resource supports offered through the division such as learning materials/access to learning websites/purchasing discounts/purchase orders?

Once registered with Sturgeon Public Schools, families have access to purchasing technology at a group discount rate. Students involved in Blended programs would also have access to literacy and numeracy online software. At this time SPS does not facilitate the purchase of learning materials for Home Education families.

9. Will the blended/shared responsibility option be 50/50, 2 core courses?

Blended programming is built for the success of each child and family individually. For the 2020/2021 school year it is recommended that children in blended learning enroll for teacher directed instruction in Language Arts and Mathematics. The minimum requirement for a grade 1 to 9 Blended program is 50% teacher led instruction. Course enrolment may be discussed during an intake meeting with a facilitator.





10. Will there be a choice in courses?

The minimum requirement for a grade 1 to 9 Blended program is 50% teacher led instruction. Course enrolment may be discussed during an intake meeting with a facilitator.

11. Will the format be synchronous or asynchronous?

Home Education with Sturgeon Public Schools is an asynchronous program. Teachers and facilitators in the Blended Program will have posted contact information and availability.

12. Will it have a schedule to follow or allow students to work at their own pace/work ahead?

Home Education offers families the greatest flexibility in meeting their child's education needs. In the Parent directed program, parents have the ability to create and adjust schedules as needed. At three points during the year, families will meet with a facilitator to discuss progress and create plans if goals are not being met. In Blended programming, students and families will still have great flexibility, but teachers will remain connected and work closely with families to provide ongoing support.

13. Will it be online or paper based?

Programming can be provided in either online or paper format. With paper format there may be additional resource costs. For grades 5 and above it is recommended that online programming be discussed with a facilitator.

14. Will learning materials/textbooks/etc be provided for the teacher led portion?

For courses that are teacher led, textbooks and access to certain software licences will be provided as required for the course. There may be additional costs if a consumable workbook is required for the course. These costs will be discussed during enrollment with the facilitator.





SPS Home Education Handbook

Parents are encouraged to download and review our Handbook for further information.

Link: [SPS Home Education Handbook 2020/2021](#)

