



Office of the
Education
Registrar

HOME EDUCATION SUMMARY AND PROGRAM

Requirements and Standards

HOME EDUCATION SUMMARY AND PROGRAM (HESP)

The purpose of a Home Education Summary and Program (HESP) is to provide information about the program which has been delivered in the previous year and information about the program to be delivered in the year to come. If this is your first HESP then it will deal only with the program you plan to deliver in the year to come.

Requirements for a HESP

- A HESP must address each of the Standards separately.
- A HESP must be prepared for each child to be home educated.
- Your HESP should provide enough information for the Registration Officer to understand the type of program being delivered and the way in which it is being delivered.
- If a medical condition could affect the delivery of your home education program, the Registrar may request copies of relevant medical certificates or reports. These will be considered in conjunction with the information provided about the proposed home education program.
- The Standards and the evidence required to meet those Standards are explained below.
- If you have already completed at least one year of home education then you need to update the 'Summary' sections to explain what you have delivered in the preceding year for the Standards where the summary is relevant – as outlined below.

Amendments to an approved home education program:

- If you need to make a *minor* amendment to your HESP, you can do so without obtaining the approval of the Registrar.

Amendments that are considered *significant* and require the approval of the Registrar are outlined below and are determined by [Ministerial Instruction number 13](#). You should discuss the change with your Registration Officer in the first instance who may be able to approve the amendment for you.

Amendments to an approved home education program:

- If you need to make a *minor* amendment to your HESP, you can do so without obtaining the approval of the Registrar.
- Amendments that are considered *significant* and require the approval of the Registrar are as follows:
 - A change to the home educator (person named in the approved Home Education program as a parent who provides home education to a child under that program) ie. parenting separation, parent deceased etc.
 - Significant variation to the pedagogy as identified in Guidelines issued by the Registrar; or
 - Enrolment of a child to attend school on a part-time basis.

Your HESP should include the same headings IN BOLD as the sections listed below.

Diverse Learning Needs

Standard

An approved home education program is to provide for the relevant child to be provided with a rich educational program that meets their individual needs.

Evidence Required

Home educators will provide evidence of resources and/or services being accessed in support of a child with diverse learning needs as appropriate.

Guidelines and Questions for Consideration

This Standard applies to you if you are home educating a child who has diverse learning needs. These needs may include:

- learning difficulties
- medical conditions
- psychological conditions
- giftedness

If your child does not have diverse learning needs you are not required to address this Standard.

In addressing this Standard you may wish to consider:

- How would you describe your child's learning needs?
- How have you/will you tailor your home education program to accommodate their needs?
- If appropriate, discuss any special support services you will access or have accessed to help address your child's individual needs.

Research

Standard

The proposed home education program is to:

- a) demonstrate that the education to be provided has been well researched: and
- b) that the aspects of the areas of education to be provided are thoroughly understood by the person providing the program.

Evidence Required

Home educators will discuss the research they have undertaken to inform their pedagogy. This may include resources, styles and options investigated. (For ongoing registrations this may have changed a lot or a little from the previous HESP).

Guidelines and Questions for Consideration

Home education is a viable education model backed by research. Research is not static and can assist your program to evolve. This Standard relates to how you inform yourself about education in general and home education in particular.

Where have you sourced information about home education (for example, books, websites, conversations with other home educators, journals)?

What have you done to prepare yourself to deliver the program?

Pedagogy

Standard

An approved home education program is to:

- a) set out the learning methodologies that will be used to meet the aims of the program; and
- b) demonstrate how those learning methodologies will be delivered to the child.

Evidence Required

Home educators will discuss the aims of their home education program and any specific methodologies informing their programs.

Guidelines and Questions for Consideration

Pedagogy refers to how you home educate. It includes educational methods and philosophies. It is important that you demonstrate that you understand the style of home education you are delivering and how it best applies to your child's learning.

Discuss your ideas on how you see home education working for your child.

Discuss which style of home education or pedagogy (for example, natural learning, eclectic approach, or curriculum based approach) you best identify with and are likely to use. You may decide to use a combination of approaches.

You can find more information about types of home education on the Office of the Education Registrar website, or by talking with your Registration Officer.

This Standard does NOT require the Australian Curriculum (or any other established curriculum) to be delivered.

Summary

Detail the pedagogy you have delivered and provide examples of how this has provided the framework for your program.

If you have changed your pedagogy from your previous HESP (whether a minor or significant), it is important to discuss this in your summary and describe what you have changed and how it has benefited your program.

Literacy

Standard

An approved home education program is to ensure that the child:

- a) will experience environments that are rich in literacy; and
- b) will participate in activities that will develop the child's speech, reading, writing and communication.

Evidence Required

Home educators will provide evidence of their child's achievements and progress in literacy as appropriate as well as how they intend to provide a strong literacy component of the program in the next 12 months.

Guidelines and Questions for Consideration

Literacy covers listening, understanding, speaking, writing, reading and viewing.

This Standard asks you to demonstrate how you intend to use literacy as a tool for learning and a means of expression and communication. What opportunities will you provide to develop your child's literacy skills? What resources will you be using to support your child's development in literacy?

Summary

If you are renewing the registration of your program then you need to provide a summary of your child's achievements and progress in literacy by reviewing what you have done in that time against what you planned to do.

Numeracy

Standard

An approved home education program is to ensure that the child:

- a) will experience environments that are rich in numeracy; and
- b) will learn and practise mathematical concepts.

Evidence Required

Home educators will need to explain what they intend to provide under this Standard for the next 12 months and provide evidence of their child's achievements and progress in numeracy, including but not limited to arithmetic, problem solving, critical thinking and reasoning strategies.

Guidelines and Questions for Consideration

Numeracy enables a person to develop logical thinking and reasoning strategies. It is needed to solve problems, make sense of time, numbers, patterns and shapes.

This Standard asks you to demonstrate how you intend to support your child in learning mathematical concepts.

What opportunities will you provide to develop your child's numeracy skills?

What resources will you be using to support your child's development in numeracy?

Summary

If you are renewing the registration of your program then you need to provide a summary of your child's achievements and progress in numeracy by reviewing what you have done in that time against what you planned to do.

Range of Learning Areas

Standard

An approved home education program is to ensure that a child engages in a broad range of educational areas suitable to the educational needs of your child. The program must identify all learning areas to be delivered to the child.

Evidence Required

Home educators will demonstrate where opportunities are provided in other learning areas. These may include, but are not limited to, science, geography, history, the arts, physical education, sociology, technologies, philosophy, cooking and life skills.

Guidelines and Questions for Consideration

This Standard gives you the opportunity to provide for your child's special interests, curiosity and talents.

You are encouraged through this Standard to expand your child's world and imagination by introducing a wide range of topics, activities and subject areas. What resources or expertise will you draw on to explore other learning areas?

Summary

If you are renewing the registration of your program then you need to provide a summary of your child's achievements and engagement in a range of learning areas by reviewing what you have done in that time against what you planned to do. Detail what other learning areas your child has engaged in and how. Remember these activities can be 'extra curricular' in that they may be delivered through involvement in a group or club activity.

Wellbeing

Standard

An approved home education program is to provide for the education of the child in matters relating to safety, health and wellbeing.

Evidence Required

Home educators will demonstrate ways in which children learn about safety, health and wellbeing.

Guidelines and Questions for Consideration

This Standard asks you to think specifically about safety, health and wellbeing as learning areas.

Possible topics may include fire safety, on-line safety, protective behaviours, healthy eating, exercise, resilience and self-esteem.

How will you assist your child in developing their ability to care for their own health and wellbeing?

This Standard is NOT to be interpreted as relating to the lifestyle, parenting, house keeping or child rearing styles of the registered home educator.

Summary

If you are renewing the registration of your program then you need to provide a summary of what topics you have covered with your child within this Standard.

Interpersonal Skills

Standard

An approved home education program is to:

- a) ensure that the child is provided with opportunities to form and maintain friendships and respectful relationships and communication with his or her immediate and other communities for a wide range of purposes; and
- b) specify how those opportunities will occur.

Evidence Required

Home educators will show ways in which opportunities for interpersonal skills development are provided as appropriate.

Guidelines and Questions for Consideration

This Standard asks you to think about how you will provide your child with regular opportunities for social interaction. This may include the family, peer group, community groups/organisations, clubs, classes or excursions and will be determined by the individual needs of each child.

What opportunities will your child have for social interaction with a range of people? This may include extra curricular activities such as dance, language or art classes and sporting activities either as part of your regular program or incidental to it. These activities do NOT need to be provided by the parent or at the home of the child.

Summary

If you are renewing the registration of your program then you need to provide a summary of activities you have undertaken or opportunities your child has had to develop their interpersonal skills.

Future Directions (13+)

Standard

If the child has attained the age of 13 years, an approved home education program is to specify how the child will be supported to plan future pathways in education, training or employment to ensure he or she develops to his or her full potential.

Evidence Required

Home educators will demonstrate how opportunities are provided for their children to explore future pathways and to achieve their potential as appropriate.

Guidelines and Questions for Consideration

This Standard applies to children/young people aged 13 and above and aims to assist them to think about and plan for their future.

Learning activities may include work experience, part-time employment, attending career expos, starting their own small business, receiving career counselling, undertaking units of study through TAFE, Open University or similar options, reading biographies of people working in fields of interest, or interviewing friends and relatives about their work.

What opportunities will your teenager have to explore future pathways for study or work?

Evaluation

Standard

An approved home education program is to specify how the child's progress under the program is to be evaluated.

Evidence Required

Home educators will provide a clear description of how they evaluate their program and monitor progress to ensure student engagement and to respond to changing needs.

Guidelines and Questions for Consideration

Consistent evaluation of your child's progress allows you to assess your child's understanding and engagement as well as your own role as educator. You may often find that you need to modify your expectations or change your pedagogy in order to fully accommodate the specific needs or interests of your child.

It is expected that progress is seen over time depending on your child's ability, health, life events and aptitude.

How will you monitor, record and evaluate the effectiveness of your home education program?

By its nature, this Standard is both backward and forward looking. You should describe your ongoing evaluation processes and how, if at all, you change or refine those processes.

