



Office of the  
Education  
Registrar

**HOME EDUCATION SUMMARY AND  
PROGRAM  
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

# HOME EDUCATION SUMMARY AND PROGRAM

## What is a HESP, and why do I need to write one?

A HESP is a document written by you, the home educator, in which you describe in detail the home education program that you are (and/or will be) delivering.

In order that the Registrar can approve your registration to home educate, you must be able to communicate clearly what you are doing and/or intend to do, building up a picture of the whole program. For example:

- the choices you have made and why you have made them
- the resources that you have used/will use and why you have chosen them
- the problems you have encountered and the strategies you have used to overcome them

## What are Standards?

Standards are ten areas home educators are required to address, they are located in the *Education Regulations 2017* and must be addressed in a home education application.

## Do I need to write an individual HESP for each of my children?

Yes. The Registrar needs to approve of the program that you are providing for each individual child. He/she needs to see that you are able to address the Standards for each of your children.

## What does a HESP need to include?

For most of the Standards you are asked to provide a Summary, an Evaluation and a Plan. (If you are applying to home educate for the first time you do not need to write anything in the Summary and Evaluation sections.)

For the Summary, clearly describe the program that you have delivered over the last year, as a family you may go on field trips, read novels etc., but you need to show how the activity relates to each child in their individual HESP.

For example, say you went on a visit to a historic site:

- Why did you choose that particular activity?
- What did your children learn/experience from the visit?  
(This would most probably be different for each child and could even address a different Standard)
- For the Plan, clearly describe the program that you are hoping to deliver in the coming year.

- For both Summary and Plan you should include specific information, wherever possible, about:
  - your aims and intentions
  - the types of learning experiences you have provided/plan to provide
  - how the program suits your child
  - the resources you have used/intend to use:
    - for example, if you are using text books or a whole curriculum say which ones you are using, why are you are using them, what grade and why. (There is no need to photocopy the table of contents.)
- For the Evaluation, clearly describe how the program worked over the last year.
  - Was is as good as or even better than you expected? In what way?
  - Are there any areas that did not work as well as you had hoped? Why did they not work?
  - In the light of the above, is there anything you will be changing?

### **How do I know if I've given the right answers?**

This is not an exam, there are no right or wrong answers.

This is an opportunity for you to show off(!), to tell your story, to paint a picture of the wonderful program that you have provided, and to present the plan that you have put so much energy and thought into for the year ahead.

Even if things did not go accordingly over the last year, write it in. It is fine to say that you tried something and it did not go according to plan. Say why you think it didn't work (was it the wrong resource, pitched incorrectly, were you or your child unwell, etc) and then say what you are going to do, or have already done, instead.

### **How often do I have to go through this process?**

You will need to re write your HESP each year prior to your renewal date including completing the summary and evaluation sections. The Office of the Education Registrar will contact you and let you know when you need to do this.