

<i>Policy</i>	<i>Title</i> HOME SCHOOLING	<i>Code</i> IHBG
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HOLLISTON

The School Committee of the Holliston Public Schools recognizes the right of a parent(s) or legal guardian(s) (hereinafter “Parent”) to provide their children with a Home School program as an alternative to public school education. As required by law, the Holliston School Committee has established standards for approved Home School Plans. Approval of a Home School program is subject to the following requirements:

1. A Parent must submit a Home School Plan to the Superintendent or their designee (hereinafter “Superintendent”) for approval on an annual basis. The Home School Plan must be approved prior to removing the student from school and commencement of the Home School program. The District accepts applications year-round; but ideally, the Home School Plan would be submitted and approved prior to the start of each school year.
2. The Home School Plan must contain the following information in order to meet the minimum standards established by the School Committee:
 - a. The proposed curriculum and number of hours of instruction the student will receive in each of the proposed subjects;
 - b. The general qualifications supporting the competency of the Parent who will provide the instruction;
 - c. The textbooks, workbooks, and other instructional materials to be used by the student and the lesson plans and teaching manuals to be used by Parent; and
 - d. A plan for student’s periodic standardized testing or portfolio evidence that demonstrates educational progress and the attainment of minimum MA state standards.
3. The Superintendent has the right to approve or reject the Home School Plan. Within fourteen (14) days of receipt of the plan, the Superintendent will either approve or reject the plan. If the plan is rejected, the Superintendent will provide reasons for the rejection and allow the Parent the opportunity to revise the proposed plan. If the revised plan is rejected by the Superintendent, the Parent may appeal the rejection by petitioning the School Committee for approval. If the Home School Plan is rejected and the student is not in school, an appropriate referral will be made.
4. The Parent must provide a portfolio of work and assessments related to the academic areas outlined in the Home School Plan by the end of the HPS academic year.
5. If a home school program is inadequate, or assessments show insufficient progress, a conference between the Parent and the Superintendent will be scheduled to find mutually acceptable ways to correct any deficiency. If deficiencies are not corrected, an appropriate referral will be made.
6. If a student who has been educated at home under an approved Home School Plan wishes to enroll in the Holliston Public Schools, the decisions on course credit and grade placement are to be made by the Superintendent on the basis of the home study course content and tests/assessments to measure the student’s academic achievement.
7. A student’s Home School Plan may include school-sponsored courses and services.
8. A homeschooled student may participate in school-sponsored activities, extracurricular activities, and co-curricula in which the student might be enrolled.

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Legal References:	M.G.L. 69:1D ; 76:1 , Care and Protection of Charles Care and Protections of Charles - MASS. Supreme Judicial Court 399 Mass. 324 (1987)
Policy Cross Reference:	
Procedure Reference:	