



KAWARTHA PINE RIDGE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

POLICY STATEMENT

Policy Name: Home Education:
Home Schooling and Home Instruction
Section: Educational Services

DRAFT Policy Code: ES-6.1

Established: January 14, 2025
Revised or
Reviewed: January 28, 2025

1. POLICY STATEMENT

The Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board (KPR) recognizes the right of parents/guardians to provide home schooling for their children. A student may be excused from attendance at school if the student is receiving satisfactory instruction at home or elsewhere, as outlined in Ministry of Education Policy and Program Memorandum 131: Home Schooling.

In support of student achievement and well-being, KPR also supports the provision of home instruction. As outlined in Ontario Regulation 298: Operation of Schools – General, home instruction may be provided to students for medical reasons or exceptional circumstances.

2. OBJECTIVE

The policy authorizes the creation of administrative regulations with respect to home schooling and home instruction. These administrative regulations provide guidance to KPR staff with the administration of home schooling and home instruction.

The Board is required to adhere to all applicable legislation including, but not limited to, the Education Act.

3. DEFINITIONS

Administrative Regulation

A document issued through the Director of Education, governing the implementation of a Board policy, or required to coordinate and control certain aspects of system operations.

Board

The corporate Board which maintains the daily operation of the system; Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board; a reference specifically pertaining to Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board as a legal entity; also referred to as KPR or KPRDSB.

Board of Trustees

The elected governance branch of the Board.

Designate

A person authorized to carry out certain and specific tasks on behalf of the Chairpersons, Vice-chairpersons, Director, or other employee, as appropriate.

Family of Schools

A group of schools consisting of one secondary school and the elementary schools that send graduated students to that secondary school. The family of schools is overseen by a superintendent of education who is responsible for providing advice and guidance to principals in carrying out their responsibilities.

Policy

A statement of intent, governing principle or end result, adopted by the Board of Trustees in open public session; it is intended to articulate what must be done, the rationale for it and a framework for the system.

4. APPLICATION

This policy applies to students, staff, trustees, and parents/guardians.

5. RESPONSIBILITY

5.1

The Board of Trustees is responsible for establishing and approving Board policies.

5.2

The Director of Education has oversight and jurisdiction in determining the parameters of this policy and the associated administrative regulation.

5.3

The Superintendent of Education overseeing home schooling and home instruction, or designate, is responsible for setting directives within this policy and related administrative regulation.

5.4

The family of schools superintendent, or designate, is responsible for providing advice and guidance to principals, or designates, in carrying out their responsibilities under this policy.

5.5

The principal, or designate, is responsible for:

5.5.1

implementing this policy and associated administrative regulation, and taking the initiative to seek appropriate guidance from their family of schools superintendent, whenever necessary; and

5.5.2

ensuring that school staff are carrying out their responsibilities under this policy and associated administrative regulation.

6. POLICY

6.1 Home Schooling

Home schooling is the delivery of program instruction to a student by the child's parent(s)/guardian(s). This instruction is given outside the formal school setting and is in accordance with the Education Act. Section 21(2a) of the Education Act states: "A child is excused from attendance at school if he/she is receiving satisfactory instruction at home or elsewhere."

6.2 Home Instruction

Home instruction is a short-term intervention for students who are registered in school and unable to attend for medical reasons or exceptional circumstances. Section 11(11) of Ontario Regulation 298: Operation of School – General states: "A principal, subject to the approval of the appropriate supervisory officer, may arrange for home instruction to be provided for a pupil where, (a) medical evidence that the pupil cannot attend school is provided to the principal; and (b) the principal is satisfied that home instruction is required.

6.2.1 Medical Reasons

The board will assume responsibility for instruction of a student who is registered in school to a maximum of five hours per week for students who are hospitalized or homebound for medical reasons as documented by a physician. This instruction should be planned for a student who will be absent for a minimum of three weeks. Home instruction is a time specific intervention intended for short-term use while alternative planning is completed by school staff (initial review to occur within three weeks of home instruction commencing).

6.2.2 Exceptional Circumstances

On rare occasions, when the student is unable to attend school, the board may provide instruction for a pupil to a maximum of five hours per week at a determined location. This instruction should be planned for a student who will be absent for a minimum of three weeks. Home instruction is a time specific intervention intended for short-term

use while alternative planning is completed by school staff (initial review to occur within three weeks of home instruction commencing).

7. RELATED POLICIES, ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS OR PROCEDURAL DOCUMENTS

Administrative Regulation:

[ES-6.1.1, Home Education: Home Schooling and Home Instruction](#)

Procedural Document:

Parent/Guardian Guide to Home Schooling

8. REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

Legislation:

[Education Act](#) (sections 21(1), 21(2), 21(5), 24(1), 24(2), 25, 26, and 30)

[Ontario Regulation](#) 298 (section 11(11) - Operation of schools – General)

Other Documents:

[Ministry of Education Policy/Program Memorandum 131: Home Schooling](#)