

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE

Students

Home Education, Online Learning Program, STU #34
and Shared Responsibility Program

Revised: March 2023

Background

Section 20 of the Alberta Education Act (Act) contains provisions for the creation and operation of Home Education. The Alberta Guide to Education delineates definitions and the parameters for the operation of both Online Learning Programs and Shared Responsibility Programs.

Procedures

Christ The Redeemer (CTR) Catholic School Division adheres to the following definitions in the Guide to Education. The Guide to Education describes an Online Learning Program as follows:

1. An Online Learning Program is a structured learning environment in which students engage with their teachers in one or more online courses over the Internet. The planning and implementation of instruction, as well as the assessment of student learning in relation to the outcomes from the Alberta programs of study, is the responsibility of Alberta certificated teachers employed by a school board or by an accredited private school. Online Learning Program providers must ensure that elementary and junior high school students have access to a minimum of 950 hours of instruction and senior high school students have access to a minimum of 1,000 hours of instruction. (Note: Kindergarten children cannot be enrolled in Online Learning Programs.) Students under age 16 may only be enrolled in Online Learning Programs with the approval of the principal. School authorities are responsible for maintaining accurate information on student participation (e.g., attendance, assignment submission, course completion). Students registered in Online Learning Programs must be given the same opportunity and necessary supports to write provincial assessments as students in a classroom-based setting.
2. The Guide to Education describes Shared Responsibility Programs as follows:
 - A Shared Responsibility Program is an education program that consists of two distinct parts:
 - Part 1: the school authority portion of the agreement must consist of a program where an Alberta certificated teacher, employed by a school board or an accredited-funded private school, is responsible for planning, resource selection, instruction, assessment and evaluation of student progress in selected courses that follow the Alberta programs of study or locally developed courses. The school authority is responsible for delivering at least a minimum of 20% of the student's program in Grades 1 to 12 and up to a maximum of 80% and must be teacher directed.
 - Part 2: the home education program of the agreement must consist of a program provided by a parent under the authority of the School Act and the Home Education Regulation. The parent is responsible for developing, administering and managing the home education program. The school authority is responsible for supervising the home education program.

3. The Christ The Redeemer Catholic Separate School Division Board of Trustees (Board) designates The Centre for Learning @HOME (CFL) as their provider of Home Education, the Online Learning Program, and the Shared Responsibility Program.
4. The Board supports the provision of Home Education, the Online Learning Program, and the Shared Responsibility Program as an educational choice for students and parents. The role of the parent in these programs is to provide a safe and caring physical learning environment for all aspects of their child's education, and to fully cooperate with CFL on educational matters in support of their child's learning. The Board further affirms and supports Alberta Education's respect for the right and responsibility of parents to make decisions that best suit the needs of their children. By supporting programs of choice, the province strengthens the public school system and promotes the availability of diverse educational experiences for Alberta students. Legislation has encouraged school boards to work with parents, the community, and stakeholders to provide choices in educational programming that will meet the needs and interests of students and parents.
5. In the Shared Responsibility and Online Learning Programs, a portion of the student grant is held in trust by CFL and used to support personalized programming needs. All resources that CFL purchases are approved by the classroom teacher in support of the student's personalized program. All resources remain the property of CFL and shall be returned upon request or program exit.
6. In both the Online Learning Program and Shared Responsibility Program, assessment is continuous. Though there are two formal report cards, student progress is routinely recorded in a grade book, which parents may access online at any time.