

File: IHBG**HOME EDUCATION**

The Sharon School Committee recognizes and respects the right of parents or guardians to educate their children at home.

Parent(s) or guardian(s) planning to undertake a home education program for their child(ren) between their sixth and sixteenth birthday shall inform the Superintendent by completing the *Notice of Intent to Pursue a Program of Home Education* prior to commencing a home education program, and at least 1 week prior to the start of the school year each year thereafter. Home education programs must be annually approved by the School Committee based on the recommendation of the Superintendent that they meet curricular and assessment expectations appropriate with grade level.

Factors which may be considered by the Superintendent in deciding whether or not to recommend approval of a home education proposal are:

1. An overview of the education program that is to include subject and instructional materials.
2. The academic background and life experiences of those who will be instructing the child(ren). Home educators need not be certified teachers nor have any diplomas or degrees.
3. A statement concerning the instructional hours that will be followed.
4. A mutually agreeable method of assessment which corresponds to the type of education program being followed and may include one or more of the following:
 - a. Daily logs, journals, progress reports, portfolios or dates work samples,
 - b. An independent report made by someone acceptable to both Superintendent and parent(s) or guardian(s)
 - c. Standardized tests results, or,
 - d. Any other method agreed to by both Superintendent and home educator(s)

Parent(s) or Guardian(s) of a student being educated in a home based program within the town shall be informed of, and may have access to, public school activities of either a curricular or extracurricular nature, as well as materials such as sample curricula and/or textbooks whenever possible.

Administrators are encouraged to give all due assistance to home education families in their efforts to provide appropriate information concerning their home education program. Parent(s) or guardian(s) are entitled to all due process rights with regard to any procedures followed and actions taken. During any resolution process, the parent(s) may continue, but not commence, the education of their children at home.

Students who participate in a home education program for all of grades 9-12 will not be eligible for a Sharon High School Diploma.

Legal Ref.: M.G.L. 69: 1D, Statewide Educational Goals; Academic Standards; Vocational Training; Grant Program
M.G.L. 76:1, School Attendance: Requirements and Exceptions

Revised: November 20, 2013