



Approach to home education for young people in crisis

Key information

The Office of Education Regulation (OER) has developed Guidelines to explain our approach to supporting young people who are experiencing crisis and are learning at home through home education.

The OER will only apply the Guidelines when there is clear evidence that medical or allied health professionals are actively involved in supporting the young person's current situation.

Scenarios

New Registration

What you can do

- Explain your young person's situation in the Diverse Learning Needs Standard.
- Describe how the situation affects your young person and how it influences your home education decisions.
- Include supporting documents from medical or allied health professionals

How the OER might respond

- Offering an alternative type of registration visit (e.g. shorter or online).
- Maintaining provisional registration following the visit and allowing time for a follow-up visit

Young person has stopped engaging with approved home education program

What you can do

- Request to make changes to your approved home education program by submitting an amendment.

Your amendment should clearly outline:

- A brief explanation of the situation and how it is affecting your young person.
- The changes you have made to the program to support them.
- How your young person is responding to these changes.
- Any new activities or strategies you have introduced.
- Examples of incidental learning—learning that occurs naturally through everyday activities.
- Include supporting documents from medical or allied health professionals.

How the OER might respond

- Approve the amendment, request more information or offer support or suggestions.

A request for a renewing home education summary and program (HESP) has been received

What you can do

- Explain your young person's situation in the Diverse Learning Needs Standard.
- Describe how the situation affects your young person and how it influences your home education decisions.
- Outline any changes you are making to support them.
- Include supporting documents from medical or allied health professionals.

How the OER might respond

- Offering an alternative type of registration visit (e.g. shorter or online).
- Approving registration with conditions.

Alternative visit methods

Types of alternative visits

- **Short face-to-face (home-based, OER offices or private meeting space):** Brief, tailored visits with flexibility for the young person's comfort.
- **Video conferencing:** Secure online meetings with digital sharing of learning evidence.

How to request an alternative visit

- Contact OER with reasons and supporting documentation.
- The OER will review the request and work collaboratively with you to determine the most suitable arrangement.

Roles & responsibilities

OER staff

- Communicate relevant information to support safe and consistent visits.

Registration officer

- Support alternative visit methods.
- Conduct visits professionally and respectfully.

Home educator

- Provide honest information and engage openly with OER.
- Work with the OER to provide updates if requested.

Child to be present

- The child must be present during the visit (as per Ministerial Instruction No. 13).
- Presence and participation may be brief depending on the young person's needs.