

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY



EDUCATION ACT OF ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA (2008)

ON

HOME EDUCATION

IN

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

Curriculum Development Unit

June 2019

Introduction

The requirements of Home Education in Antigua and Barbuda are set out in the Education Act (2008) Division 3, Section 81 of Antigua and Barbuda. The parent/guardian must first apply to the Director of Education indicating the name of the student, gender, age, address and the last school attended. The application should also include the name(s) of the parent/guardian, address if different from the student, the contact number(s) and the name of the home school educator if different from the parent/guardian. (Please use the attached form).

The parent/guardian is expected to read the Education Act of Antigua and Barbuda (2008) to become familiar with the requirements for Home Education. This document, however, outlines elements in the Education Act that should be given special consideration with Home Education.

DIVISION 3 (Education Act, 2008)

81. Home education

- (1) A parent of a student may provide, at home, a home education programme for the student if the parent complies with Division 3 subsection 8 of the Education Act (2008) and if the programme meets the goals and objectives outlined in section 3(3) of Education Act (2008).
- (2) The parent shall, prior to the commencement of a home education programme for the student and on an annual basis thereafter for as long as the home education programme is offered, register the student with the Director of Education. (No. 21 and No. 81 of the Education Act, 2008).
- (3) An **educational plan** for each student who is receiving home education shall be prepared and provided to the Director of Education subject to the following conditions—
 - (a) The initial educational plan shall be prepared and provided to the Director of Education **three months** prior to the commencement of the home education programme;
 - (b) The educational plan shall be for a **minimum period of three school years** and shall cover every year of the home education programme;
 - (c) The educational plan shall include a description of the learning activities for the student that will comply with the goals and objectives set out in section 3(3) of the Education Act (2008) and
 - (d) The educational plan shall be based on the **national curriculum** as established by the Minister under Part 8 of the Education Act (2008).
- (7) The Director of Education shall—
 - (a) provide for the assessment of the student's achievement on a regular basis and communicate the results to the parent;

(b) advise the parent if, in the opinion of the Director of Education, the student is not making reasonable progress in the programme; and

(c) provide the parent with recommendations which will assist the student in improving the level of achievement.

GUIDELINES FOR PREPARING THE EDUCATION PLAN FOR HOME EDUCATION

The following table is a suggested layout for the Education Plan to be submitted to the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology in preparation for Home Education.

SUBJECT:					
GRADE LEVEL:					
TERM:					
WEEKS	LEARNING OBJECTIVES	CONTENT/ TOPICS	LEARNING EXPERIENCES	TEACHING/ LEARNING RESOURCES	ASSESSMENTS (PROJECTS ETC)
1.					
2.					

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT.....

- The Education Plan must be for a period of three (3) consecutive years.
- Term one (1) begins the first Monday in September and runs for 15 weeks; Term two (2) begins the first working day in January and runs for 13 weeks; and Term three (3) begins in April and runs for 11 weeks. Please note that the Ministry of Education may vary the length of each term from time to time and if this happens, you will be duly informed.
- The National Curricula must be followed at all times.
- The student may be required by the Director of Education to sit the National Assessments based on Grade Level (Grades 2, 4, 6) in primary schools or stated assessments in secondary schools to determine his/her performance.
- Keep a record of the assessments given and the student’s performance for each assessment. This will be required by the Ministry of Education to gauge the student’s learning.

- The student will be placed in a Zone or Sector and will be supervised by the Education Officer School Administration for that Zone or Sector.
- If a student is not performing at grade level, the Director of Education may request that he/she be enrolled in one of the established schools.

RECOMMENDATIONS

In order to ensure that the Home Education experience is effective, the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology recommends that the educator or parent does the following:

1. Register the student with the Director of Education at least three (3) months before the start of the school year.
2. Prepare a time-table for the student to follow when engaged in learning on a daily basis.
3. Have a quiet, comfortable and literacy rich environment for your child to work. Provide a desk/table and chair away from distractions.
4. Ensure that the student has access to technology (internet and device), if possible, to encourage his/her engagement in independent learning.
5. Assess the student at the end of each segment of a unit or topic (formative assessment) to determine the student's performance at various intervals in the teaching learning process.