



POLICY – PO801

Home Instruction (Medical Reasons)

Area:	Student Services
Source:	Superintendent of Education – Student Services
Approved:	Dec. 8, 2014
Revised:	Feb. 10, 2020

1. Introduction

The Durham Catholic District School Board supports a holistic and inclusionary approach rooted in Gospel values that is supportive of all students including those who require supports at home due to a diagnosed medical condition that requires absence from school for a period of three or more weeks.

2. Definitions

Home Instruction – teaching that occurs at a student’s home or medical facility (i.e., hospital) when that student will be absent from school for medical reasons for three or more weeks.

Medical Note – a Regulated Health Care Professional’s official written or typed medical note that excuses a student from school for three or more weeks.

3. Purpose

This policy and its related administrative procedures provides a framework and direction for school Principals to determine whether or not a student qualifies for home instruction.

4. Application / Scope

This policy applies to all schools for students from Kindergarten to grade 12.

5. Principles

5.1 The Board believes that:

- 5.1.1 all eligible students have a right to an education in an inclusionary environment rooted in Gospel values;
- 5.1.2 the health and safety of our students is a priority in making their learning and student success comfortable and productive.

6. Requirements

- 6.1 The Director of Education shall issue administrative procedures to support this policy and to amend them thereafter as the need arises.
- 6.2 Home Instruction will only be provided upon receipt of a written recommendation by a medical practitioner or in a circumstance approved by the Family of School Superintendent where absence from school is going to be greater than three weeks.
- 6.3 Wherever possible, the classroom teacher will be asked to provide Home Instruction. Where this is not possible, the principal will work with Human Resource Services to find an appropriate teacher.
- 6.4 The principal and the Home Instruction teacher, in collaboration with the parent/guardian will determine the timing and location of the Home Instruction.
- 6.5 The Enrolment Register Instructions for Elementary and Secondary Schools will be followed as it relates to students on Home Instruction.
 - a) The Superintendent of Education – Student Services will maintain a registry of all students receiving Home Instruction including, the length of time and reason.
 - b) The school of the student on Home Instruction will indicate the student as receiving Home Instruction as per the directions in the enrolment register.
 - c) The Superintendent of Education – Student Services will review the Home Instruction registry with the Chief Attendance Officer on a regular basis to determine if other school supports may be required to return the student to full time attendance at school.

7. Sources

Nil

8. Related Policies and Administrative Procedures

8.1 Home Instruction (Medical Reasons) Administrative Procedure (AP801-1)