



Welcome to Home Learning

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Overview

SelfDesign Home Learning offers an alternative to the SelfDesign Learning Community K-12 online learning program by providing the opportunity for your child to learn independently at home.

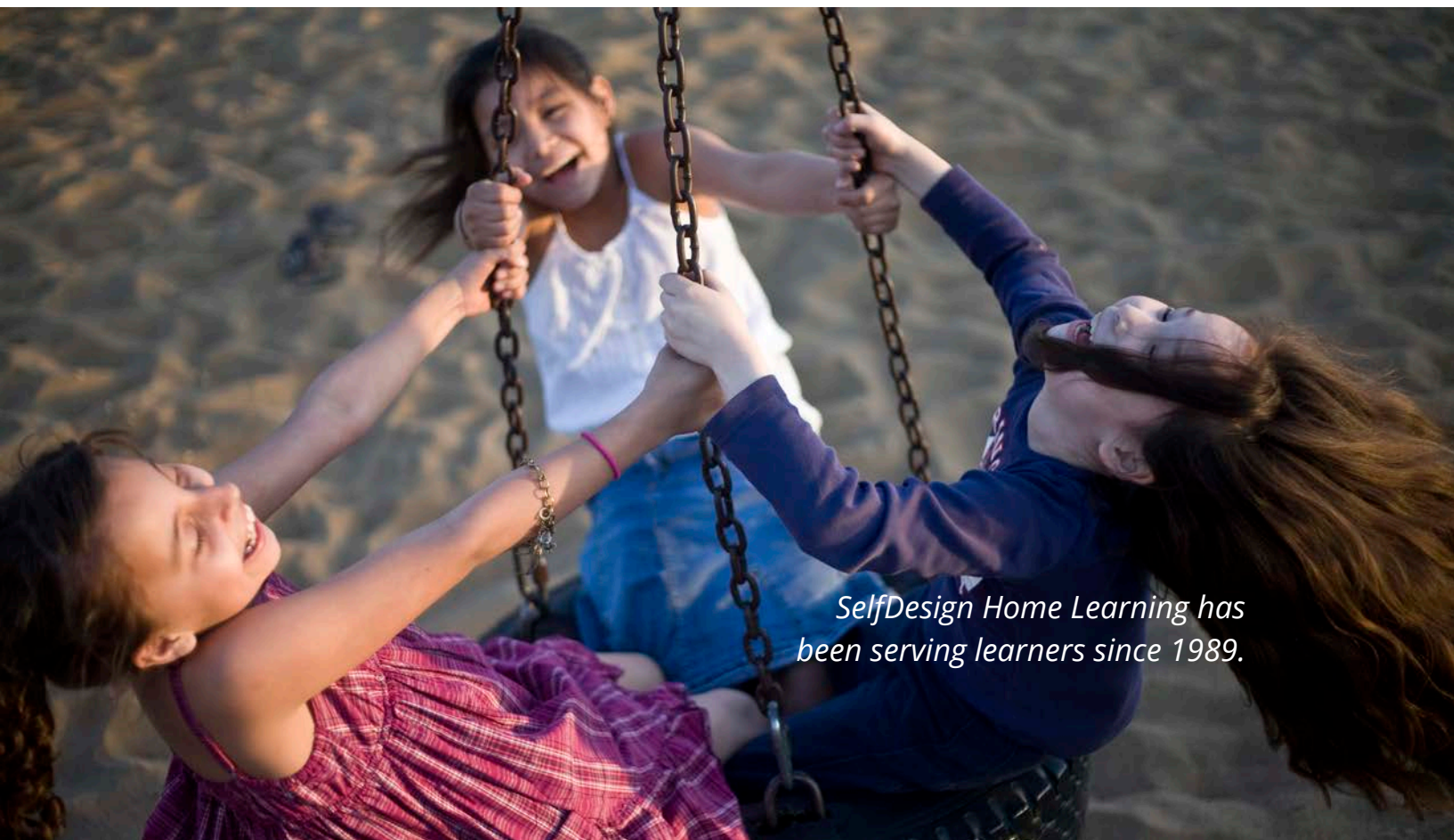
It's the most flexible option if you wish to take full responsibility for your child's education and you are not concerned with B.C. Ministry of Education requirements. If you'd like to homeschool your child, you are required to register your child in a recognized school as per the provincial School Act.

SelfDesign Home Learning differs from our SelfDesign Learning Community K-12 online learning program in several important ways.

In SelfDesign Home Learning:

- Families do not work with an educator.
- Parents take educational and financial responsibility for the learning program and do not report to the school.
- Learners' work is not assessed.
- Learners do not earn credit for courses in grades 10 to 12, nor graduate and earn a high-school diploma.
- Support for learners with special needs is not provided (including no funding available for learners with designations).

If you need further clarification on registered homeschooling and how it differs from other options, please see the B.C. Ministry of Education's page [Classroom Alternatives: Homeschooling](#)



SelfDesign Home Learning has been serving learners since 1989.

Communication guidelines

Your contact for Home Learning is Lori Bender.

She can be reached at homelearning@selfdesign.org

Please keep your contact information current with us, including:

- Your email address
- Phone number(s)
- Residence address
- Mailing address

Please notify us if your child changes schools or if you leave B.C.

Check your junk or spam email (and check under the Promotions tab if you have Gmail) from time to time in case our messages or newsletters end up there. If an email from SelfDesign does go into spam, please mark it “not spam”.

Contact us if you have questions or concerns, or if you believe that you should have heard from us and have not.

Note: Although you don't have to report to us about your educational program, it is important for us to know how to reach you.



Re-registration

Re-registration in future years is not automatic. Near the end of each learning year, we will send you information concerning re-registration for the following year. Like enrolled learners, B.C. homeschoolers are legally required to be registered with a school in B.C. until they are 16 years of age.

Please note:

- A small variety of resource subscriptions that are available to enrolled learners in the SelfDesign Learning Community online program are also available for SelfDesign Home Learning families. Registered families will receive information about these resources in our seasonal newsletters.
- Simple “ID” cards are available from us at no charge. These may be useful for obtaining homeschooling discounts from certain retailers.
 - If needed, SelfDesign can provide a school photo ID instead. These may be especially useful for youth wishing to access things like student transportation fares or tickets to events. Contact homelearning@selfdesign.org for more information.
- If you plan to travel by ferry on a field trip — even if the trip just involves your family —we can provide you with a letter indicating that the travel is for educational purposes and requesting discounted fares for the learners under the B.C. Resident Assistance Program. On some shorter routes, learners may travel for free. Please try to request the letter as far in advance of the travel date as you can. If you should encounter Ferries personnel who are not familiar with how this works, please let us know.
- SelfDesign Home Learning learners considered by age to be in grades 4 and 7 are welcome (but not required) to participate in provincial Foundation Skills Assessment testing. If you are interested, please contact us right away, as the process begins October 1.



Personal Education Numbers (PEN)

Legal registration under Section 13 of the School Act (i.e. homeschooling registration) means that your child has a Personal Education Number — and their Personal Education Number is included in the SelfDesign Home Learning registration confirmation email.

If your child is in kindergarten or is new to B.C., the Ministry of Education will assign a Personal Education Number. If your child is new to SelfDesign but has previously been associated with a K-12 school in B.C. (even as a preschooler within a StrongStart program), we will have access to their Personal Education Number in the Ministry database.

The same Personal Education Number follows your child throughout their registration or enrolment with schools in B.C. and is considered private information. As a parent or guardian, you are entitled to have it, but you are not required to give it to anyone outside the B.C. K-12 or post-secondary educational systems – and you can decline to give it to post-secondary institutions.

If your child's Home Learning ID cards doesn't suffice for a needed purpose, we will be happy to write a letter on your behalf. Please note: a Personal Education Number cannot be used as proof that your child is currently registered or homeschooled.



Grade 10-12 opportunities

Registered homeschoolers can now take grades 10-12 online courses from a different school without giving up your home schooling status. The Ministry of Education refers to this as cross-registration or cross-enrolment. Homeschoolers face more restrictions on this than enrolled distributed learning learners do:

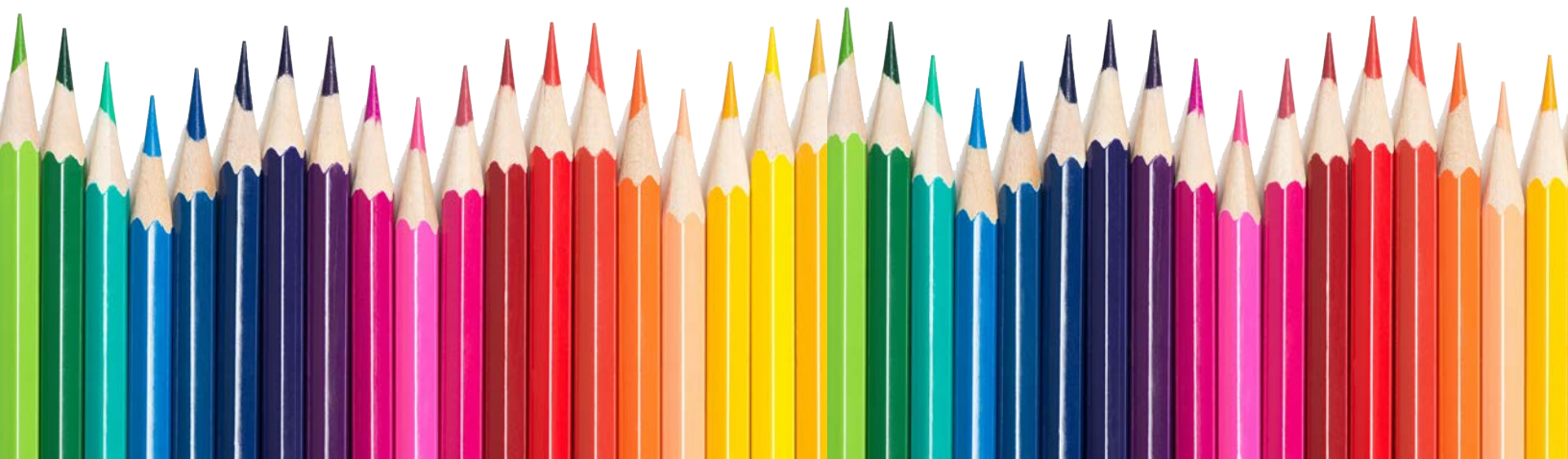
- Courses can not be taken at a “bricks-and-mortar” school or through a public school district’s continuing education program - they must be taken through an online learning school.
- Courses are only available at the grade 10-12 level. K-9 courses are not available to registered homeschooled students in B.C.

Taking online learning courses while homeschooling is optional. You can find online learning courses offered in the public system at learnnowbc.ca/Courses/ and information about online learning schools at B.C. Ministry of Education’s page [Classroom Alternatives: Online Learning](#).

Home Learning and post-secondary admission

Registered homeschoolers do not receive high school diplomas unless they manage to earn enough credits through cross registration/enrolment. To support consideration of post-secondary options, SelfDesign Home Learning has compiled several strategies that have worked for learners who successfully accessed post-secondary education without a high school diploma. There are no guarantees, but the information can be a place to start. Information about this process is shared periodically in our newsletter, or email homelearning@selfdesign.org for more information.

If at any time you would like to explore enrolling your child in our kindergarten to Grade 12 online learning program instead of registering as a homeschooler, please visit our [website](#).





selfdesign.org | homelearning@selfdesign.org