

NSW Home Schooling Registration Checklist

Everything you need to register with the Home Schooling Directorate — on one page.

Free resource from Access Learning Australia · built in Australia, for Australian families

Step 1 — Know the basics

- ☐ **Registration is with the NSW Dept of Education** (Home Schooling Directorate) — it moved from NESA in 2025
- ☐ **Apply ~3 months before** you want to start — decisions take up to 12 weeks (average ~7)
- ☐ **Compulsory ages 6–17** — a parent or person with parental authority applies via the online Home Schooling Platform

Step 2 — Gather documents & write your program

- ☐ **Birth certificate** or other identity document for your child
- ☐ **Two documents** confirming the NSW address where home schooling will happen
- ☐ **Court orders** — mandatory to attach if any apply to your child
- ☐ **Educational program** based on NESA syllabuses: K–6 all 6 key learning areas; Years 7–10 English, Maths, Science, HSIE + 2 electives
- ☐ **Show your systems** — how you'll plan, record teaching, and track progress and achievement

Tip: plain-English descriptions per learning area beat an over-engineered document. You don't need to replicate school.

Step 3 — The home visit

- ☐ **An Authorised Person phones** to arrange a home visit (30–90 minutes) after you apply
- ☐ **Your child must be sighted** during the visit — have them around
- ☐ **Have ready to show:** your program, record-keeping system, resources and learning space
- ☐ **Certificate emailed** once approved — first registrations are often for less than the 2-year maximum

Step 4 — After registration (start these habits on day one)

- ☐ **Keep implementation records** — work samples per learning area, journals, photos, reading logs
- ☐ **Evidence continuously** — renewal needs a new program AND proof you delivered the current one
- ☐ **Diarise renewal early** — short first registrations come around fast; apply before expiry

Feeling overwhelmed by the planning and reporting part?

Access Learning Australia creates daily, Australian-curriculum-aligned plans and keeps your evidence organised for reporting — free forever, no card required.

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