

Parents Edu



THE PARENTS' ROLE IN
THE OUT-OF-SCHOOL
EDUCATION



PaREntSEdU

The Parents' Role in the out-of-school Education of their children



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Contact



parents-edu.eu



@ParentsEduProject



kczia@komesnet.com.pl

Coordinator



Partners



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Homeschooling



TITLE OF THE LEGAL ACTS IN PARTNER COUNTRIES

Country	Title of the legal acts regulating the educational system and the possibility of the extra-school learning (activities):
Poland	Ustawa z dnia 7 września 1991 r. o systemie oświaty, Ustawa z dnia 14 grudnia 2016 r. Prawo oświatowe
Portugal	Basic Law of the Educational System n. ° 46/86.
Spain	Organic Law 8/2013 on Education. Besides, Regions in Spain have powers for further development of educational issues (and they have their own laws on education, but always respecting the national one to guarantee equal opportunities)
Macedonia	Ministry of Education and Science in Macedonia
France	Code Of Education Jules Ferry Lawson 16 June 1981
Turkey	MEB, Milli Eğitim Temel Kanunu, 1739
Romania	National Education Law No 1/2011

1. HOMESCHOOLING

Homeschooling and individual teaching

Homeschooling, or home education, is the education of children at home or a variety of other places, generally by their parents, carers or groups of parents.

When homeschooling is legal, families consider homeschooling the best option to educate their children due to philosophical or religious reasons, because they have children with special needs or they do not have a stable workplace or residence.

For parents, becoming a teacher, developing an educational philosophy tailored to their child, navigating national education requirements and still parenting could be very hard to handle and stressful, especially for those just starting out with these responsibilities. Below are described some tips for parents that are considering homeschooling as an option.

Advantages:

- Greater focus on the child,
- More individual approach,
- Modern teaching methods,

- Greater control over the knowledge gained by the child,
- Students can learn more about what they really care about,
- Strengthening family relations.

Disadvantages:

- Lack of access to school scientific aids,
- More difficult to make friends in the real world,
- The child's knowledge depends on the knowledge of the parent/tutor,
- Professionally devoted to one of the parents.

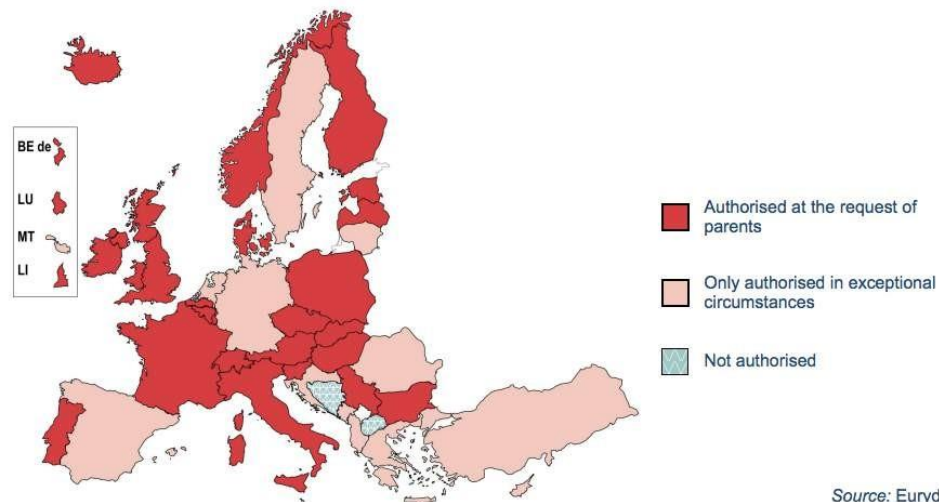
1. Check out the legal framework

The first step when it comes to homeschooling is to know what is the legal situation of this educational option in the country.

According to the Eurydice Report 2018/19, in primary and lower secondary education home education at the request of families is possible in a majority of educational systems in Europe. In a dozen countries, it is possible only in exceptional circumstances. In many cases, parents have to ask for authorisation from top level or local authorities. The qualification or the minimum educational level of the educator is defined in half of the countries. Students' progress is monitored and assessed everywhere with the exception of Netherlands and United Kingdom, where no regulation exists. Students must pass examinations at the end of the education level in some cases.

Detailed information about national legislation in Europe for 2018/19 is included in the Eurydice Report Home Education Policies in Europe. Primary and lower Secondary Education.

Figure 1: National legislation on home education during primary and lower secondary education, 2018/19



2. Think about pros and cons of homeschooling and the educational goals for children.

Parents can answer themselves questions like what are the schools like where you live? Do they match your educational goals for your children? What do you want your children to accomplish through their education? Why do you want to educate them at home? Do you have enough time for homeschooling to consider it as an option? Do you have the necessary economical and technical resources to teach your children? Do you have the knowledge, skills and competences to teach your children? How long will you implement homeschooling? Etc.

3. To decide on an approach and a schedule.

Teaching children at home is not about replicating school in family's home. One of the advantages of homeschooling is that it allows parents the freedom to determine what, how, where and when their kids learn. Parents have to find what they are most comfortable with and what fits their child best. They can make use of the flexibility and creativity to work out a plan that suits their own family and also take cues from other homeschoolers.

Another advantage of home education is the child-led learning. Learning is more effective and fun when we learn about the stuff we like. Parents can also go at the child's pace, rather than the child having to go at the class's pace.

The latter does not mean that parents may teach some contents and avoid others when thinking about homeschooling. It is highly recommended to follow the general school curricula to match the knowledge and abilities of the children according to their age.

4. To tap into the local homeschooling community.

In many places, there are local groups where parents can meet other families who are in the same situation and share skills to teach children. Home education groups can provide more information and there are also groups on social media.

Furthermore, as homeschooling is gaining in popularity, many zoos and museums are instituting events designed specifically for homeschooling parents.

Parents can find resources, support groups and contacts in different platforms and websites (check bibliography).

5. To learn about teaching.

It is very important to know how to apply parents' knowledge in a way that the child will understand. Reading books on teaching and taking teaching courses are recommended. In some local homeschooling communities homeschooler parents switch with other parents to teach some specific knowledge so they move from a house to another to teach other families' children.

6. To prepare financially.

Homeschooling *could be* expensive taking into consideration that one parent will need to be at home as the primary educator. It is needed to consider the curricula, the supplies, the expense of transforming the home office into a classroom, etc.

7. To consider socialization and life skills.

Homeschooling may never imply on the isolation of children. While education takes place at home, it is very important to involve kids in their community. To do so, parents can sign them up for sports, scouts, and home-school groups. Take field trips with other children and make sure to include activities where the child has to do teamwork

in a group will help them to develop their social skills. It's needed to be very certain the child's social needs are being met and that they will have a peer group.

8. Be patient and flexible.

For starters, it is required the patience to wait for the kid to be ready to learn something, to trust that something that looks like a frivolous pursuit with no discernible academic benefits may actually be a worthwhile endeavour for the kid, to wait out the long, seemingly fallow periods when not much learning seems to be going on, to trust that when keeping offering kids new experiences they will keep learning and growing, to keep offering new experiences , to make changes in the previous plans, etc.

Individual teaching, this term is the combination of some different concepts. During individual teaching teacher works with only one student. Individualization of teaching focuses on the maintenance and further development of student's intellectual and personal potential. Very often individual teaching is delivered to a student with disabilities or special needs and it is granted to them due to the national regulations.

Advantages:

- Greater focus on individual characteristics of the student and the pace of her/his work is observed,
- Greater knowledge of the student's weaknesses, gaps in knowledge,
- Greater focus on the idea of the general knowledge level of the student and her/his readiness for school work,
- More individual approach.

Disadvantages:

- Time-consuming process to determine a plan to work with each student (especially difficult for young teachers),

- Difficult contact with other students.

Analysis of legal forms of out-of-school education in partner countries

Poland

At the request of the parents, the director of a public or non-public kindergarten, primary school and secondary school, to which the child has been admitted may, by decision, allow the child to fulfill the obligation education outside of kindergarten, primary or secondary school.

The permit referred to in paragraph 1, may be issued before the start of the school year or during the school year if:

1) A kindergarten, primary school or secondary school, to which the child has been admitted, is located in the province where the child resides.

2) The application for authorization has been accompanied by:

a) The opinion of the public psychological and pedagogical counselling center,

b) Parents' statement on providing the child with conditions enabling the implementation of the core curriculum applicable at a given stage of education,

c) The obligation of parents to join each school year by a child who fulfils the obligation school or compulsory education for the yearly classification examination.

Portugal

The modality of Homeschooling comes to be, in terms of paragraph a) of nº 4 of article 3 of Decree-Law no. 553/80, of November 21, which approves the Statute of Private and Cooperative Education - the one who is taught at the student's home by a relative or by a person who lives with him ". During the compulsory school each Child must enrol each year and stick the box Domestic Learning and add the CV of the relative or parent.

Macedonia

Illegal, public education is mandatory without known exceptions.

France

It's legal in France to home school your child. Education is obligatory (between 6 and 16 years old) not schooling. You have to make an annual declaration at your local municipality and at the educational institution. You will also be inspected every year by the schools inspector. This education is made by the parents of the children, but can be realized by tutors or a parent's group.

Turkey

Attendance to school is obligatory in Turkey. However, there are some exceptions where homeschooling can be possible. Only when there is a health condition which prevents the child from attending the school, can home/hospital schooling be arranged. Special permission has to be obtained and the process is regulated by the National Education Authorities.

Romania

No. According to the Penal Code (Art. 377 paragraph 1) "the parent or the person to whom a minor has been entrusted, according to the law, and who, unjustifiably, withdraws or prevents him by any means from attending compulsory general education is punishable by imprisonment from 3 months to one year or a fine "

There is an exception in the National Education Law No 1/2011, which targets children unable to move for medical reasons. "For children with special educational needs or unable to move for medical reasons, it is possible to organize education at home or at healthcare facilities."

Under the conditions in which the Romanian law is not permissive with home-schooling, the alternative that parents have is to enrol their child in "umbrella schools", numerous abroad. Practically, the child appears in papers in a private school that offers recognized degrees in some countries, equivalent to those in public schools. Thus,

those who have completed such an "umbrella school" can, for example, take the baccalaureate exam and then continue their studies.

Spain

For compulsory education it is forbidden; however, some home-schooling is done in pre-school (depending on the parents and the organisations).



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