

Victorian Home Education Advisory Committee

Communique no. 32

The 32nd meeting of the Victorian Home Education Advisory Committee (VHEAC) held on 2 December 2025.

VRQA Home Education report

The VRQA provided an update on home schooling registrations, partial enrolments, continuations, unregistered schools and reviews.

The VRQA advised that work will soon commence on a new home schooling IT system. VHEAC community representatives will be asked to 'road test' this in advance.

The VRQA continues to monitor the actions of several businesses that appear to be operating as unregistered schools. From October 2025, VRQA gained new powers to prosecute unregistered schools. This includes scenarios where third party providers are submitting review documents on behalf of parents.

VHEAC Home Education Representative Report

Members heard that the Home Education Network (HEN) has been consulted by the NSW Department of Education in relation to the findings of the NSW Audit Office review of home schooling.

Members expressed concern regarding media reports of the National Socialist Network (NSN) 'building home schooling networks' and that HEN had been contacted for comment and declined to comment. The Home Education representatives advised the department that HEN is not associated with the NSN home schooling networks.

Sunsetting of ETR Regulations 2017

Members were provided with an overview of the department's process for the review and remake of the Education and Training Reform (ETR) Regulations 2017 that are due to expire in June 2027. The department has begun a process to ensure regulations are reviewed and remade prior to this.

Members noted this meeting was an initial consultation with VHEAC to provide information about the process and gather initial feedback, prior to further consultation with the HEN and VHEAC during the review process in 2026.

Public consultation will be through Engage Victoria and there will be an opportunity for VHEAC, the HEN and the home schooling community to make a submission in response to draft ETR Regulations 2027 and the Regulatory Impact Statement when the review process has been completed.

The department acknowledged the different home schooling context since 2017 which will inform the review of the regulations.

Home education research and data

The Chair thanked members for sharing home schooling research papers which will contribute to the department's review and remake of the Education and Training Reform (ETR) Regulations 2017.

Meeting Attendees

The meeting was attended by the following members:

- Linda Vaughan, Executive Director, International Education and Partnerships Division, Department of Education (Chair)
- Keith Don, Deputy CEO, Students and Services, Victorian Registration and Qualifications Authority
- Helen Cain, A/Manager, Home Schooling Unit, Victorian Registration and Qualifications Authority
- Kirsty James, Home Education Representative
- Pavlina McMaster, Home Education Representative
- Annie Regan, Home Education Representative
- Joanna Bindon, Home Education Representative
- Kate Croft, Home Education Representative
- Lois Bedson, Home Education Representative
- Dr Glenda Jackson, Director, Australian Home Education Advisory Service

About VHEAC

VHEAC provides guidance, information, and feedback to the department and VRQA on the operation of the home education regulations and on home education matters in Victoria. VHEAC was established in the context of the regulatory changes to home schooling that commenced in Victoria on 1 January 2018.

VHEAC meets at least 3 times each year and a communique is published after each meeting. The department provides secretariat support to VHEAC. Communiqus from previous VHEAC meetings can be found online on the department's website at <https://www.vic.gov.au/victorian-home-education-advisory-committee>.

VHEAC Secretariat

Department of Education

Email: vheac@education.vic.gov.au

To receive this information in an accessible format, please contact the VHEAC Secretariat.