



December 20, 2024

Dear Offshore School Representatives, Principals
and Offshore School Inspectors:

Further to letters sent to Owner/Operators dated June 18, 2024, and October 18, 2024, the Ministry recognizes that there has been some ongoing confusion related to the use of Online Learning in offshore schools and the status of [School District 73 Business Company](#) (Global Education) and the Ministry of Education's relationship.

This letter is intended to provide clarification to ensure students can access Online Learning during the two-year period ending June 30, 2026, and clarify options for students to take non-BC curriculum courses.

Offshore school students enrolled with Global Education during the 2023/24 school year

The Ministry and Global Education entered into a final two-year agreement that authorizes Global Education to continue to provide BC curriculum courses to its currently enrolled students (i.e., those who were enrolled with Global Education during the 2023/24 school year). Students who enrolled in Global Education during the 2023/24 school year can continue their courses and take additional courses with Global Education at any point beginning July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2026.

Offshore school students not enrolled with Global Education during the 2023/24 school year

Students who were not enrolled with Global Education in the 2023/24 school year may not take BC curriculum courses through Global Education. These students may enroll in non-BC curriculum courses offered by Global Education and other educational institutions outside the BC school system.

If a student or a parent conveys to a teacher or the principal that they would like to take an online course unavailable at the school, school staff may share information on course offerings by Global Education through their Canadian Online Learning course selection that may be eligible for equivalent credit. The principal may provide contact information for Global Education (i.e., Director Kristin Engleson at kengleson@exc.sd73.bc.ca) to obtain more information about those courses. Since BC offshore schools are only authorized to offer BC's curriculum, offshore schools are unable to support or facilitate students' access to non-BC curriculum courses. For example, schools may not register or pay for non-BC curriculum courses on behalf of their students, maintain agreements with educational institutions outside the BC school system for the purpose of providing non-BC curriculum courses, provide classroom space or school staff support to students taking non-BC curriculum courses.

Obtaining BC credit through equivalency

Schools may award equivalency credit to students who have successfully completed an equivalent Grade 10-12 course from an educational institution outside the BC school system. Schools should award credit through equivalency following procedures established by the school in alignment with the Ministry's

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[Equivalency Policy](#) based on a comparison of courses including factors such as learning standards, general subject matter, depth or breadth of coverage of subject matter, and assessment methods, instruments, and standards. Please ensure that all documentation related to equivalency credits is maintained in each student's file and available for inspection.

Remote instruction

Under limited circumstances, the Ministry may authorize a school to deliver a portion of the BC educational program by means of Remote Instruction, a method of Online Learning that relies on the use of technology for real-time, two-way audio and video interaction with instant messaging functions between students and teachers who are in different physical locations. The Remote Instruction Policy is available on the [Offshore School Program SharePoint](#).

I hope the information above helps resolve any confusion related to the use of Online Learning in offshore schools and the status of School District 73 Business Company (Global Education).

A copy of this letter is available on the [Offshore School Program website](#).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Alan Schroeder".

Alan Schroeder
Director, International Education

Cc: Kristin Engleson, Director, Global Education, School District 73 Business Company