

Written by Quinn Legal

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**Quinn Legal were instructed to consider the extent of compatibility with the Human Rights Act 2001. Their findings are attached.**

# Parents 'must' allow assessment of home learners by the department

Stronger controls on home learning are set to be introduced by the bill.

The latest figures show that 141 children are currently registered as being taught at home, with the numbers of new children registered increasing steadily each year.

Parents are already required to notify the department of plans to home educate but, in what appears to be significant phraseology, the bill states: 'The department must assess the educational development of children in the island receiving home education.'

It adds assessments must be carried out for each child. Also included under the banner of what the department 'must' do are make arrangements for home-educated children to have access to school facilities as it sees appropriate and maintain a reg-



The bill proposes stronger controls for home learning

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ister of children registered.

The department 'may' provide advice and information upon request from the parent of a child receiving education.

The parent of a child 'must comply' with any request by the department to provide information for assessment, which may include interview-

ing the child/parent and assessing work.

The bill itself does not state how this would be enforced or what sanctions