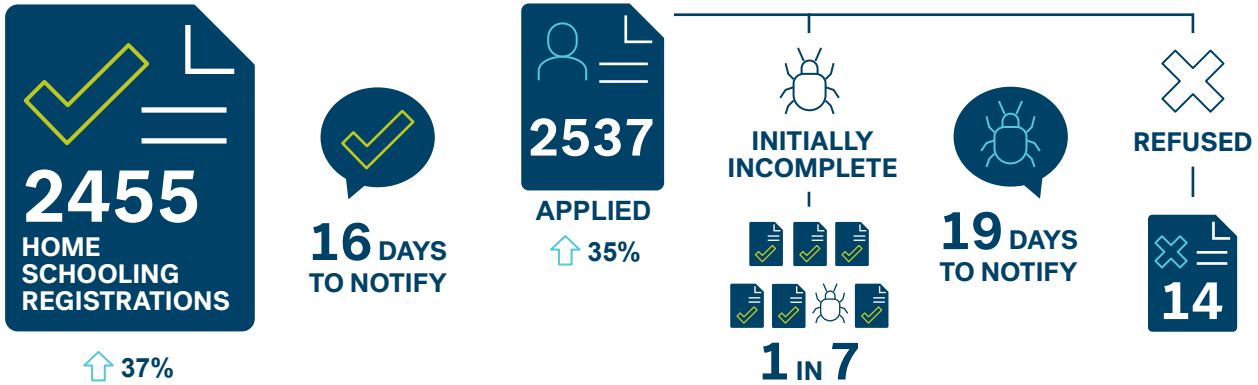


# HOME SCHOOLING REGISTRATION ACTIVITY

## 1 JANUARY – 31 DECEMBER 2020



We registered 2455 children for home schooling this year, 37 per cent more than in 2019. The total number of active registrations increased by 20 per cent over the 12-month period. We do not ask parents why they choose to register their child for home schooling; however, the strong growth in applications coincides with the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic which disrupted school learning.

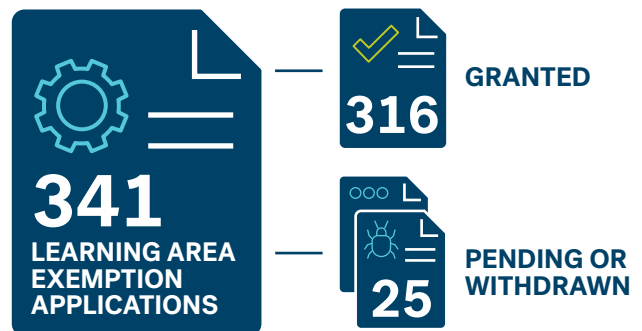
On average, we notified a parent that their child was registered 16 days after receiving their complete application. Notifications took longer this year, partly due to the increased volume of applications.

Incomplete applications miss supporting documents or lack enough detail to demonstrate they meet the requirements. The proportion of applications that were incomplete continues to decrease; one in seven was incomplete in 2020 compared to one in five in 2019 and one in four in 2018. This highlights the value of the home schooling community's continued assistance in improving our guidance on applications.

Where there was an issue with an application received, we averaged 19 days to notify the parent about the issue.

We refused less than one per cent of applications. Refusals typically occur when the application is incomplete and the parent does not respond to our requests for more information.

We received 341 applications for a learning area exemption this year. The most common learning area for an exemption is languages. We did not refuse any exemption applications.



Our 2020 review program was significantly delayed because of the volume of applications for registration received. Applications took priority because of the mandated timeframes for assessment.

At 31 December we had completed 31 of 361 planned reviews. Those outstanding were being finalised in 2021, or the parent had cancelled their child's registration.

In line with public health advice, we only conducted reviews by email or phone only, not face-to-face.

All completed reviews found the requirements of registration were being met.

