



NovaBridge School

Ontario Canada | BSID# 887376 | Grades 1-8

FREE GUIDE

Is Online School

Right for Your Child?

What Ontario Parents Need to Know

Before Making a Decision

A practical guide to your options,

what Ontario online school actually looks like,

and how to find the right fit for your child.

WHAT'S INSIDE:

- ✓ Public school, private school, homeschooling, and online school: a clear comparison
- ✓ What a typical week looks like for an online student in Grades 1 to 8
- ✓ How teacher interaction works in an asynchronous online school
- ✓ What to look for when choosing a registered Ontario online school
- ✓ A self-assessment quiz to find the right fit for your child
- ✓ Common myths about online schooling answered honestly

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A NOTE TO YOU

Something Is Not Working. You Are Paying Attention.

Most parents who explore online school do not do it on a whim. Something prompted the search. Maybe your child is struggling in a large classroom. Maybe the schedule does not fit your family. Maybe your child is bored, anxious, falling behind, or simply not thriving in the traditional setting.

Whatever brought you here, this guide will not pressure you into a decision. It will give you clear, honest information about every option available to Ontario parents, what online school actually looks like day to day, and a practical self-assessment to help you decide if it is the right fit for your child.

What This Guide Will Not Do

This guide will not tell you that online school is right for every child. It is not. It works extremely well for some children and families, and it is the wrong choice for others. By the end of this guide, you will know which category your child falls into.

1 in 5

Ontario parents have explored alternatives to public school

Growing

demand for online K-8 education post-2020

BSID# 887376

NovaBridge's Ontario Ministry of Education registration number



SECTION 1

Your Four Options as an Ontario Parent

Ontario parents have four distinct paths for their child's education. Each one is legal, and each one has a different profile of strengths and limitations. Here is what you need to know about each.

OPTION 1

Ontario Public School

Free

Strengths:

- Fully funded. No tuition cost.
- Certified teachers across all subjects.
- Socialization with peers and extracurricular activities.
- Standardized Ontario curriculum with provincial oversight.

Limitations:

- Large class sizes (average 20-30 students per class).
- Fixed schedules with no flexibility for family needs or travel.
- Pace set for the group, not your individual child.
- Limited capacity for personalized attention.
- Geographic restrictions: you must attend your designated school.

**OPTION 2****Ontario Private School (In-Person)****CAD 8,000 to CAD 75,000 per year****Strengths:**

- Smaller class sizes and more individual attention.
- Often stronger academic programs and extracurricular offerings.
- More consistent school culture and parental community.

Limitations:

- Significant annual tuition cost.
- Still requires fixed daily attendance and schedule.
- Geographic restrictions apply.
- Quality varies widely by school.

OPTION 3**Unassisted Homeschooling****Varies: materials, tutors, and resources at your own cost****Strengths:**

- Complete schedule and curriculum flexibility.
- One-on-one learning in a comfortable environment.
- Legal in Ontario with no approval required.

Limitations:

- You are the teacher for all subjects, all grades.
- No official Ontario school record created.
- No qualified teacher interaction or progress monitoring.
- Significant time commitment from parents every day.
- Re-entry to traditional school requires intake assessment.



OPTION 4

Registered Ontario Online School

NovaBridge School: from CAD 3,300 per year

Strengths:

- Full Ontario curriculum delivered by qualified teachers.
- Self-paced and fully asynchronous: your family controls the schedule.
- Official Ontario school record maintained from day one.
- Teacher interaction when your child needs it.
- Accessible from any location, any time zone.
- Fraction of the cost of in-person private school.

Limitations:

- Requires reliable internet access.
- Less in-person peer interaction than a physical school.
- Requires your child to be motivated and self-directed to some degree.
- Parents play an active supporting role at home.



SECTION 2

Side by Side: How the Four Options Compare

	Public School	Private School	Homeschool	Online School
Ontario curriculum	✓	✓	~	✓
Qualified teacher support	✓	✓	✗	✓
Official school record	✓	✓	✗	✓
Schedule flexibility	✗	✗	✓	✓
Self-paced learning	✗	✗	✓	✓
Small class / 1-on-1 support	✗	~	✓	✓
Location independent	✗	✗	✓	✓
Accessible internationally	✗	✗	~	✓
Cost under CAD 5,000/yr	✓	✗	~	✓
Extracurricular programs	✓	✓	✗	✓
French language program	~	~	~	✓
Arabic language program	✗	✗	~	✓

✓ Available ✗ Not available ~ Varies by school or approach



SECTION 3

What a Typical Week Looks Like at NovaBridge

One of the most common questions parents ask is: "What does my child actually do each day?" Here is a realistic picture of a student's week in NovaBridge's online program. This is not a rigid schedule. It is a flexible template that your family adapts.

MONDAY

Morning Language Arts

Your child logs into their learning portal and works through the current Language lesson. This could be a reading activity, grammar exercise, or writing task.

Mid-morning Mathematics

Math lesson for the week introduced. Student works through examples and exercises at their own pace.

Afternoon Independent Review

Student reviews any flagged concepts from the previous week based on teacher feedback.

TUESDAY

Morning Science or Social Studies

Student works through a lesson module. Includes reading, activities, and short assessment questions.

Mid-morning Arts or Health

Creative or reflective activity assigned for the week.

Flexible Catch-up or Advance

Student uses remaining time to catch up on any pending tasks or move ahead if they are ready.

WEDNESDAY

Morning Mathematics Continued

Student completes math practice exercises and submits work for teacher review.

Mid-morning Language Arts Continued

Writing assignment or reading comprehension completed and submitted.

Afternoon Extracurricular (Optional)

French, Arabic, Chess, or Empower Math sessions available depending on enrollment.



THURSDAY

Morning Science or Social Studies Continued	Student completes the week's module and submits it for teacher review.
Mid-morning Chapter Review (if applicable)	If a chapter is complete, the teacher reviews the submission and provides written feedback.
Flexible Teacher Interaction	Student or parent messages teacher with any questions. Teacher responds within the agreed timeframe.

FRIDAY

Morning Weekly Wrap-up	Student completes any remaining tasks, reviews teacher feedback received during the week.
Mid-morning Assessment (if scheduled)	Chapter test or quiz if the student has completed a chapter and teacher has scheduled an assessment.
Afternoon Family Time	Week ends. No evening or weekend obligations unless the family chooses to work ahead.

Important: This Is a Guide, Not a Rule

NovaBridge is fully asynchronous. Your child can complete Monday's work on Tuesday, work ahead on weekends, or take a family trip mid-week without falling behind. The curriculum moves at your child's pace, not the calendar's.



SECTION 4

How Teacher Interaction Actually Works

A common concern from parents is: "Will my child have a real teacher, or is it just videos and software?" At NovaBridge, your child has a real teacher who knows their work. Here is exactly how that interaction works.

When Your Child Has a Question

Your child or you as the parent messages the teacher directly through the learning portal. The teacher responds with a clear explanation. This is not automated. It is a qualified teacher reading your child's specific question and answering it.

When Your Child Completes a Chapter

The teacher reviews all submitted work from that chapter, identifies where your child performed well and where gaps exist, and sends written feedback. This gives your child a clear picture of their progress before moving to the next chapter.

At Assessment Time

When your child is ready for a chapter test or quiz, the teacher schedules and administers it. The teacher reviews the results and discusses them with the student and parent. Assessments measure real understanding, not just memorization.

When the Teacher Notices a Problem

If the teacher spots a recurring gap or misunderstanding in your child's work, they reach out proactively. You do not have to wait for a formal report card to know your child is struggling.

At Report Card Time

NovaBridge issues formal Ontario-style progress reports. These follow Ontario Ministry of Education reporting standards and become part of your child's official school record.

What NovaBridge Is Not

NovaBridge is not a fully automated system where your child watches videos and clicks through multiple-choice questions unsupervised. It is a registered Ontario school with qualified teachers who monitor real student work and provide real feedback. The difference matters.



SECTION 5

What to Look for When Choosing an Ontario Online School

Not all online schools are equal. Before you enroll your child anywhere, use this checklist to verify that the school meets the standard your child deserves.

Your Pre-Enrollment Checklist

NON-NEGOTIABLE

Ministry Registration

The school must have a valid Ontario Ministry of Education BSID number. Without this, it is not a registered school and cannot issue an official Ontario school record. You can verify any school's registration on the Ministry's public school information website.

NON-NEGOTIABLE

Qualified Teachers

Teachers should hold Ontario Teacher Certificates (OCT). Ask directly. A registered Ontario school must employ certified teachers.

NON-NEGOTIABLE

Real Ontario Curriculum

The curriculum must align with Ontario Ministry of Education expectations for each grade. Ask for the curriculum outline for your child's grade and check it against the Ministry's publicly available curriculum documents.

NON-NEGOTIABLE

Clear Teacher Interaction Policy

Ask exactly when and how teachers interact with students. Vague answers like "teachers are available" are not sufficient. You want specific answers: what triggers teacher contact, response time expectations, and how feedback is delivered.

NON-NEGOTIABLE

Transparent Tuition and Fees

All fees should be clearly listed before enrollment. Watch for hidden costs: registration fees, materials fees, assessment fees, and technology fees. A trustworthy school lists everything upfront.

NON-NEGOTIABLE

Progress Reporting

Ask how progress is reported, how often, and in what format. An Ontario school should issue report cards that follow Ministry standards.

**NON-NEGOTIABLE****Support for Learning Differences**

If your child has ADHD, dyslexia, giftedness, or any other learning difference, ask specifically what accommodations and individualized programs are available.

RECOMMENDED**Trial or Introductory Option**

A school confident in its program should be willing to discuss your child's specific situation before enrollment. Be cautious of schools that push immediate enrollment without answering your questions.

NovaBridge on This Checklist

NovaBridge School meets every non-negotiable item on this list. BSID# 887376. Ontario-certified teachers. Full Ontario curriculum Grades 1-8. Defined teacher interaction at chapter reviews, assessments, and on request. All fees published transparently at novabridgeschool.com/tuition-and-fees.



SECTION 6

Six Common Myths About Online School, Answered Honestly

Parents hear a lot of things about online school, not all of it accurate. Here are the six most common concerns, addressed directly.

**MYTH
1**

Online school is just videos and self-study.

FACT

A registered Ontario online school employs certified teachers who monitor student work, provide written feedback, answer questions, and conduct formal assessments. It is not a YouTube channel. It is a school with a real teacher assigned to your child.

**MYTH
2**

My child will fall behind without daily classroom structure.

FACT

Self-paced learning done well produces students who develop stronger independent study habits than classroom peers. The key is consistent daily learning time, which parents and teachers support together. Many NovaBridge students advance faster than their grade level.

**MYTH
3**

Online school is not recognized by universities or the Ontario government.

FACT

NovaBridge holds BSID# 887376 from the Ontario Ministry of Education. School records issued by registered Ontario schools are recognized province-wide. Students transition to in-person Ontario schools, high schools, and beyond with their official NovaBridge records.

**MYTH
4**

My child needs in-person interaction to learn properly.

FACT

Children need social interaction. Online school does not eliminate this. It shifts responsibility for peer interaction from the school to the family. Parents need to actively build social opportunities outside of school hours. For many families, this is a worthwhile trade-off for the flexibility gained.

**MYTH
5**

Online school only works for exceptional or gifted kids.



FACT Online school works well for a wide range of children: children with learning differences who need more time and individual attention, children who are academically strong and move faster than the class average, and children whose family circumstances make a fixed school schedule impossible. It is not an elite option. It is a flexible one.

MYTH
6

My child needs to be very self-motivated for online school to work.

FACT Self-motivation helps, but it is not a prerequisite, especially at the elementary level. Parents play an active role in supporting daily learning routines. The teacher monitors progress and flags when a child is falling behind. The system is built to support children who need structure, not just those who thrive without it.



SECTION 7

Is Online School the Right Fit? Take the Self-Assessment

Answer each question by circling or noting the letter that best describes your child and your family. Total your letters at the end and check the results below.

1 How does your child respond to working independently?

- A Struggles significantly without direct adult guidance at every step.
- B Manages some independent work but needs regular check-ins.
- C Works independently for extended periods without prompting.

2 How important is scheduling flexibility to your family?

- A Not important. We prefer a set external routine.
- B Somewhat important. We need occasional flexibility.
- C Very important. A fixed school schedule creates real problems for us.

3 How does your child currently feel about school?

- A Generally positive. They enjoy the classroom and social environment.
- B Mixed. Some aspects work, others are a challenge.
- C Struggling. The current setup is not meeting their needs.

4 How available are you as a parent to support daily learning at home?

- A Very limited. I rely on the school to manage everything.
- B Moderately available. I can support evenings and weekends.
- C Actively available. I can be present and involved during school hours.

5 Does your child have specific learning needs (ADHD, dyslexia, giftedness, anxiety)?

- A No identified needs.



- B Mild needs that are currently managed adequately.
- C Yes, and the current school setup is not accommodating them well.

6 How do you feel about your child's current academic pace?

- A It is appropriate. They are on track with their peers.
- B Slightly off. They are either a little ahead or a little behind.
- C Significant mismatch. They are either far ahead or consistently behind the class.

Your Results

Mostly A Traditional school is likely a good fit for your child right now. Your child thrives with external structure and in-person peer interaction, and your family does not have strong flexibility needs. Consider staying in your current setup and monitoring how things develop.

Mostly B Online school is worth exploring seriously. You have moderate flexibility needs and some dissatisfaction with the current arrangement. A registered online school like NovaBridge could solve the specific friction points without a dramatic change. Book a conversation with the NovaBridge team to discuss your child's situation.

Mostly C Online school is very likely the right fit for your child. The combination of flexibility needs, learning style, and current school challenges points clearly toward a self-paced, teacher-supported online model. NovaBridge is built for exactly this profile. Enrollment is open now.



Not Sure Yet? Talk to Us First.

You do not need to make a decision today. NovaBridge parents are welcome to reach out with questions before enrolling. We will tell you honestly whether our program is the right fit for your child.

Here is what happens when you contact us:

1

You tell us about your child.

2

We answer your questions directly.

3

You decide when you are ready.

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This guide was prepared by NovaBridge School. All information is based on Ontario Ministry of Education guidelines current as of 2026. This guide does not constitute legal or educational advice specific to your child's circumstances.