

## Red Tape

- Varies depending on where you live.
- Focus here is on the red tape for co-ops in Queensland, Australia but these questions may highlight areas to be aware of if you are living elsewhere.
- Education Act (2006)
  - Children registered for homeschooling are expected to receive a majority of their education from their parent/registered educator. The Home Education Unit has no interest in any of the education provided within a co-op unless you are reporting on social goals or something similar.
  - Avoid creating a co-op that is too “school-like”. Too much like a school and you may be shut down by the Non-State Schools Accreditation Board for being an unregistered school. The Education Act will tell you what a school is, not what to avoid. School is...
    - 5 days a week
    - Full school days
    - Structured learning
    - Paid educator
    - Organised / business-like
- Hiring an educator
  - This person is legally classified as a tutor, not a teacher.

- They may wish to have public liability insurance / a Blue Card / First Aid Certificates / be registered with the Department of Education, but these are not legally required. It is up to the parent whether they require/request any of these.
- Insurance
  - This is not legally required but you may want to consider this, especially if your numbers are larger.
  - The co-op / business / property may wish to have Public Liability insurance.
  - You may wish to shop around to find insurance that meets your specific needs.
- Council
  - How is the area you are running from zoned?
  - Is your co-op running as a business? What are the Council requirements for businesses in your specific area?
  - Take into account parking / noise / impact on your neighbours
  - Even if you have ticked all the Council boxes, a complaint from a neighbour can lead Council to shut you down
  - Take into account the relationship you have with your neighbours / nearby businesses etc.
  - What is the possible impact of your co-op on your neighbours?