

HOMESCHOOL WORKSHOP

3 JOHN 1:4

I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth.



What do we mean by “HOMESCHOOLING”

Homeschooling is educating our children at home, or wherever we may be.

Our PHILOSOPHY:

Education is not neutral. Every teacher has a worldview. Every program has an underlying worldview. (He that is not with Me is against Me... Matthew 12:30)

Education is more than academics. It is only a part of "homeschooling".

Whether a child is at school or at home, they are not just being taught academics. They are being disciplined and the heart of the child is being shaped.

You cannot separate parenting from education.

"Education is the transmission of basic skills and values to the next generation. It is inescapably religious and it cannot be neutral."
Christopher Klicka, *Homeschooling The Right Choice*, 2002

PROVERBS 22:6

*Train up a child in the way he should go,
Even when he is old he will not depart from
it.*

What does SCRIPTURE say?

From Homeschooling The Right Choice by Christopher Klicka

Children are a gift from God

Behold, children are a gift of the Lord; The fruit of the womb is a reward. Like arrows in the hand of a warrior, so are the children of one's youth. How blessed is the man whose quiver is full of them; they shall not be ashamed when they speak with their enemies. Psalm 127:3

In Genesis 33:5 Jacob introduces his children to his brother Esau as "the children whom God has graciously given me", and in Isaiah 8:18, the prophet says, "I and the children whom the Lord has given me."

But, children still belong to God

You took your sons and daughters who you had born to Me. You sacrificed them to idols to be devoured. Were your harlotries so small a matter? You slaughtered My children and offered them up to idols causing them to pass through fire. Ezekial 16:20-21

God judged these parents severely because they did not meet God's conditions for raising His children.

Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's. Matthew 22:21

God's Conditions for Educating Children

Fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. Ephesians 6:4

And these words which I am commanding you today, shall be on your heart; and you shall teach them diligently to your sons and shall talk of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way and when you lie down and when you rise up. And you shall bind them as a sign on your hand and they shall be as frontals on your forehead. And you shall write them on the doorposts of your house and your gates. Deuteronomy 6:6-9

Train up a child in the way he should go, even when he is old, he will not depart from it. Proverbs 22:6

*No references in which God gives the authority to raise and educate children to the state.
God holds parents responsible for the education of their children.*

What Does God Tell Children?

My son, observe the commandments of your father, and do not forsake the teaching of your mother; bind them continually on your heart; tie them around your neck. When you walk about, they will guide you; when you sleep, they will watch over you; and when you awake, they will talk to you. For the commandment is a lamp, and the teaching is light; and reproofs for discipline are the way of life. Proverbs 6:20-23

*A pupil is not above his teacher but everyone after he has been fully trained,
will be like his teacher. Luke 6:40*

What do the STATISTICS Say?



GROWTH 2011-2017 REGISTERED HOME EDUCATED STUDENTS IN AUSTRALIA

by Stuart Chapman

	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	TOTAL
2011	136	2763	51	891	891	603	3300	1806	10 441
2012	167	2924	56	951	1000	660	3435	1889	11 082
% INC	23%	6%	10%	7%	12%	9%	4%	5%	6%
2013	166	3327	62	1108	1046	745	3718	2211	12 383
% INC	0%	14%	10%	17%	5%	13%	8%	17%	13%
2014	190	3250	90	1379	1119	830	3977	2477	13 312
% INC	14%	-2%	45%	24%	7%	8%	7%	12%	7%
2015	220	3650	86	1770	1150	897	4461	2826	15 060
% INC	16%	12%	-4%	28%	3%	11%	12%	14%	13%
2016	252	4100	82	2303	1225	893	4743	3303	16 901
% INC	15%	12%	-5%	30%	7%	0%	6%	17%	12%
2017	271	4700	100	2580	1314	928	5647	3464	19004
% INC	7.5%	14.6%	22%	12%	7.3%	3.9%	19.1%	4.9%	12%
2017 STATE STUDENT POP	69000	1209000	42, 000	813,000	267,000	81,000	954,000	414,000	3,849000
2017 % HOME EDUCATED	0.39%	0.39%	0.24%	0.32%	0.49%	1.15%	0.59%	0.84%	0.45%

Notes:

1. Nationally, home education numbers have grown by 82% over the six-year period 2011-2017 which makes homeschooling the fastest growing education demographic in Australia. Nearly one in 200 students are now registered for home education. An equivalent number are estimated to be unregistered.

2. In the ACT, home education has grown by 99% over the six-year period 2011-2017. In the ACT, provisional registration is straightforward, but a home visit is required if home education is continued for longer than six months.

3. New South Wales has experienced solid growth (45%) in the years 2014-2017 after a slight dip in 2013-2014. The dip may have been a result of unpopular regulations, which were introduced at that time. Since then, although NSW continues to have laws, which are considered onerous by the homeschooling community, department officials seem to be exhibiting some flexibility and only a small percentage (0.84%) of formal applications failed to meet the assessment guidelines in 2017.

4. The Northern Territory numbers have doubled in the six year period despite having only two intakes for home education each year. Everywhere else, one can commence home education at any time throughout the year.

5. Queensland has experienced spectacular growth in the number of students registered for home education with a total growth of 290% over the six-year period 2011-2017. Queensland has more students doing distance education than any other state and the concept of education at home is well established.

6. South Australia continues to show the most consistent growth rate in home education over the survey period. It is also the state where numbers most closely mirror the national rate of homeschooling.

7. Tasmania has the highest per capita rate of home schooling being the only state to have over 1% of students home educated. Tasmania has home educators represented on a government administrative body overseeing home education.

8. Victoria has the largest number of students registered for home education in Australia. Numbers have grown by an impressive 42% over the three-year period 2014-2017. Introduction of the Safe Schools program by the Victorian government which teaches gender fluidity has been a factor in many families choosing to home school for the first time. Victoria also allows for partial enrolment of a home-educated student in a local government school.

9. Western Australia continues to have a strong growth rate in the number of students registered for home education with a 92% increase in numbers from 2011-2017 and has the highest per capita rate of all mainland states. At the current rate of increase, the number of students registered for home education will exceed 1% of the student population within three years.

References:

ACT education.act.gov.au/publications_and_policies/publications_a-z/census
NSW educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/wcm/connect/fb780222-ae23-446c-965b-e9294e9f26f3/home-schooling-data-april-2018.pdf?MOD=AJPERES&CVID=QLdqed.qld.gov.au/publications/reports/statistics/schooling/students
Vic home-ed.vic.edu.au/2017-registration-figures-released-vic/
WA education.wa.edu.au/web/annual-report/1.-student-enrolment#toc11
School data
abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/Lookup/4221.0main+features2017
SA; TAS, NT data obtained by direct contact with Education Departments

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BENEFITS of Homeschool

Notes

Gen 2 Survery, 2015

<http://www.nheri.org/Gen2SurveyASpiritualandEducationalSurveyonChristianMillennials.pdf>

i & ii) <https://www.smh.com.au/national/nsw/homeschooled-kids-perform-better-in-naplan-report-20160204-gmlgu9.html>

iii) <https://skeptics.stackexchange.com/questions/16459/did-massachusetts-have-a-higher-literacy-rate-before-compulsory-schooling>

iv) <https://hslda.org/content/docs/news/200908100.asp>

CONCERNS about Homeschooling

Notes

All scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work. 2 Timothy 3:16-17

Notes

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.



*Thus, says the Lord, Do not learn the way of the nations,
And do not be terrified by the signs of the heavens
Although the nations are terrified by them;*

What NEXT?

Do a few internet searches and it won't take you long to see that the choice of HOW to educate your children is endless, even overwhelming! Before you delve into these methods, first we recommend you consider a few things that will help you narrow your choice down to a method that will suit your style and your family.

Step 1: Your Family Situation (this will change over time)

How many children do you have? What ages? Do you, or will you, have babies and/or toddlers? Is your child already reading? Are there any illnesses in the family? Does your husband work away? Do you have a support network? Are there any special needs? Learning support needed?

Don't forget that things change and what works for you now, may not work for you at another time.

Notes

PSALM 127:3

*Behold, children are a heritage from the
Lord,
The fruit of the womb a reward.*

Step 2: What are your Reasons for Homeschooling?

Not everyone homeschools for the same reasons. Think about what your reasons are and remember this when making decisions about how you homeschool. Did you know that some parents homeschool because they feel strongly about the style in which their children learn eg. Charlotte Mason, classical, unschooling etc?

When things do get tough, these reasons can remind you of why you started homeschooling in the first place.

Notes

Step 3: What are your Specific Goals for your Children?

You may have specific goals in mind for each child in your family. Do you have an older child who needs a pathway for uni or for a trade? Do you want to provide particular social interactions for your children? Do you want specific learning support for your child?

Notes

DEUTERONOMY 6:6-7

⁶And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. ⁷You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.

Other Things to Consider when Choosing How to Homeschool

1) Legal Requirements

Each state has its own legal requirements

In Qld you need to register with the Home Education Unit (HEU) or enrol with a distance education school. In Qld, compulsory school age starts at 6 years and 6 months and ends at 16 years or completed year 10 (whichever comes first).

2) Any other personal preferences

Support services/accredited DE schools

DE schools, Accelerate, Educate and Assist, Complete Education, Homeschooling 101

Questions You Could Ask When Choosing a Program

Remember: There is no perfect curriculum!

ISAIAH 54:13

*All your sons will be taught of the Lord;
And the well-being of your sons will be
great.*

Are you Struggling?

Ask yourself the following questions:

1. Do you have unrealistic expectations on yourself and/or your child?
2. Are your struggles due to your child's struggles? If so, are the issues your child is having a character or academic issue?

Do you need to reassess "how" you are homeschooling?
(le. the DE school you're with, the programs you are using)

Strategies to help:

1. Time for God
Devotion and prayer with the children. Pray in the car.
2. Time for yourself
Put the kids in front of the TV for an hour while you take some time to enjoy a personal activity. Room time for kids
3. Time for your marriage
Couch time; date nights
4. Time for fun
Mum with kids; family fun
5. Time with likeminded friends
The online community is great if you do not have your own support network (Facebook, Aussie Homeschool)
6. Put school in its place!
What do you think your child needs to learn?
7. Get that housecleaner!
Life has seasons - sometimes you just need to do things you wouldn't normally do
8. Utilise your older children
Buddy reading; chores; chore buddy; play with younger siblings
9. Pro-homeschooling resources
Homeschooling The Right Choice; When You Rise Up; John Taylor Gatto - Dumbing Us Down; Generations With Vision
10. Helpful Christian parenting and Home Management resources
Titus 2; Preparation for Toddlers; Growing Kids God's Way....remember to always "chew and spit".

...let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith... Hebrews 12:1-2

Ten Ways to Simplify Home schooling

1. Keep everything as simple as you can. Jesus wrote with a stick in the dirt and He was the greatest teacher the ever lived. He used no curriculum or lesson plans. Home schooling can be made far more complicated than it should be. A simpler approach is much more effective.

2. Stick to the 3 Rs. They form the foundation of life-long learning in every field because they are the tools of study. There will be no need to formalise any other subject if the children are doing their best in these 3 because people who are well grounded in reading, writing and math will approach other subjects boldly, independently and confidently.

3. Let the children teach themselves as much as they are able. This teaches them responsibility, intellectual independence, and builds confidence. It's also better for the parent/child relationship because you can focus on parenting instead of playing school teacher.

4. Use the most direct method available. For reading, read; for writing, write; for math, do it; and for Bible, read it. Don't fall for catchy curriculums or methods that are really just something else for you and your child to learn.

5. Don't worry about your child's age or grade. Just let him do the best he can each day. Children grow intellectually like they do physically: in spurts. Although we may have an audience of skeptical relatives, home schooling is not a circus, and we refuse to train our children to do tricks for people.

6. Minimise distractions in the home. Watch for excessiveness in entertainments, snacking, outings, phone conversations and the like. These sorts of things can easily get out of hand and compete with the effectiveness of a home school and sap the family of time and energy.

7. Seek quality over quantity. A few tapes of great music, a small case of carefully chosen books and a few special play mates are better than a large, but poor quality collection.

8. If you must document your school activities, do it after the fact. This is what you will not make promises you cannot keep. If you are required to make lesson plans, be as vague as permissible. Don't let transcripts, diplomas, records and tests determine your academic plans. Focus on learning and the rest will follow.

9. Put the needs of your youngest, most vulnerable children first. If an older child gets a little behind in school, I'm sure you can forgive yourself, but if something happened to the toddler while you were busy home schooling I don't think you would be able to say the same.

10. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, mind and soul, seek Him early giving Him the first fruits of your day and teach your children to do the same. I know that you are tired and there aren't enough hours in your day, but we serve a God who can make the sun stand still.

Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am humble in heart and you will find rest for your souls, For My yoke is easy and My burden is light. Matthew 11:28-30