

# Pros and cons of homeschooling



**Homeschooling** is becoming more and more commonplace. The US Department of Education estimates that in 2007 about 1.5 million or 2.9% of all school-aged children were homeschooled in the US. That equals a total of about 2 million children of which approximately 30% were teens. It is by far no longer considered odd to homeschool, even through highschool. Not many of us homeschooling parents were homeschooled. Yet, we all survived high school, either public or private, and so do millions of kids every year. There are some key pros and cons on the matter. Knowing your goals for your child is a key in making this decision.

Source : <http://www.mariannesunderland.com/2013/01/14/homeschooling-high-school-pros-and-cons/>

## Home School Learning: The Advantages

- Child-centred learning - you can learn with your child at his/her own pace, without any competitive aspect.
- Since socialisation will have to be more organised and/or structured, a home schooled child will meet people who share their interests and hobbies rather than merely their age, and get involved with a range of extra-curricular activities.
- Home schooling allows much flexibility of education, which takes into account a child's level of learning that day, and fits in once in a lifetime learning opportunities as and when they occur, such as an exciting exhibition coming to town.
- Home schooling can happen anywhere, and can take in exciting locations such as science museums, zoos, as well as being able to home school abroad (although parents should check local rules and regulations).
- Home schooling involves more family time.

## School Learning: The Advantages

- School learning leaves parents more time to path out their own tasks and/or career during every day life.
- Whether a child is 'unschooled', (taking charge of his or her own education) or more actively-taught by parents, both methods involve a large time and effort investment by the whole family.
- When a child is learning at school, their teachers perform all the tasks, from teaching lessons, to making a timetable, organising trips and visits, sorting out resources, that a home schooling parent would have to carry out.
- A state-maintained school education will tend to be cheaper than home schooling. Although, at home, parents do not have to pay costs like uniform, travel, etc, there will be higher costs which would not usually be incurred in a school-based education, such as buying a curriculum, text books, computer and writing resources, field trips, science equipment, etc.
- Also a school based education usually allows both parents to bring in an income, if that is desired.
- The socialisation issue: while there is fierce debate about the level that social interaction is a problem within home schooling, in a mainstream school opportunities to meet other children and adults form a part of everyday life and are therefore less fraught.

Source : <http://www.ahomeeducation.co.uk/home-school-vs-school-education.html>