



Public School Alternative Resources

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A list of options that is far from complete, but will hopefully give you some good places to start!

Local Facebook Groups:

-New to Homeschooling in Williamson County

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/3555083974519881>

-Tennessee homeschool Support

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/tennesseehomeschoolsupport>

-Franklin and Brentwood TN homeschool Group

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/867643160267894>

Homeschool Resources:

<https://shapetn.com> – Spring Hill area parent educators

<https://www.mthea.org> – Middle Tennessee Home Education Association

<https://www.homeschoolingwc.com> – Homeschooling Williamson County

<https://www.thehomeschoolmom.com/homeschooling-in-tennessee/homeschool-co-ops-academic-enrichment-classes/>

<https://www.tn.gov/education/school-options/home-schooling-in-tn.html>

Homeschool Legal Co-op: Membership helps these guys look out for us at state and national level, and gets you quick access to a lawyer familiar with your local homeschool laws for questions, and defense if you run into problems.

<https://hslida.org/legal/tennessee>

Umbrella Schools: This is how most homeschoolers report grades and attendance in TN. They handle withdrawing you from your public school after you are registered with them. This is not your actual school, some offer online classes, and curriculum advisors, but they are primarily a reporting tool to keep you legal. They are a middle man that will ensure your attendance and grades are filed in compliance with TN requirements.

-Honor School of Tennessee- The least expensive “bare bones” option.

<https://www.honorschooltennessee.com/enroll/>

-Home Life Academy- advisors to help get you started, variety of online classes that can be optionally used as part of your curriculum

<https://homelifeacademy.com/enroll-now/getting-started/>

-The Comenius School- Affiliated with Franklin Classical School.

<https://thecomeniusschool.com/umbrella-program/>

-Grace Christian Academy Umbrella- Affiliated with Grace Christian Academy at Grace Chapel

<https://www.gcalions.com/apps/pages/umbrellaprogram>

Curriculum Shopping websites:

- <https://www.rainbowresource.com/>

- <https://www.christianbook.com/>

Homeschool Tutorials: Some of these groups offer full curriculum service covering all core subjects, some offer enrichment classes, and some offer a variety of al la carte style classes.

Haven Academy - K-7th

<http://www.haven-academy.com>

M-Th with Friday option in Franklin

Heart Christian Academy - preK-12th

<https://www.heartchristianacademy.org>

2 days a week Brentwood and Columbia

Concordia Arts Academy- preK-12th

M-F Variety of programs, class plans for various grades, in Franklin and Thompsons Station

<https://www.concordiaartsacademy.com/homeschool-education/>

Ironwood Academy - 1st-12th

<https://ironwoodacademy.org>

2 days a week in Franklin

Behold Community Schoolhouse – 5-13 years old

<https://www.beholdcs.com>

2 or 4 days per week, Friday option in Franklin

Murfreesboro Homeschoolers Tutorial - 1st-8th

<https://www.murfreesborohomeschoolers.com>

Mon and Wed - 9am - 3pm in Murfreesboro

Renew Christian Academy - 6th-12th

<https://renewchristianacademy.com>

Tues and Thurs - 8:30am-3:30pm in Franklin

SHARE (Spring Hill Area Resource Education) – K-6th

<https://www.sharetutorial.org/>

Tuesdays in Columbia

Classical Conversations - preK-12th

<https://www.classicalconversations.com>

1 Community Day per week, several local communities

Heritage Homeschool Group-

<https://www.homeschool-life.com/TN/hhgtutorial/>

Thursdays, K-12, Thompsons Station

West Harpeth – 6-12th

<https://www.westharpeth.org/TN/westharpeth/index.cfm?>

Tuesdays and Thursdays

Homeschool Curriculum options:

Great list of additional curriculum and resources organized by style with brief explanation of styles (Classical, Charlotte Mason, Montessori, etc.) See following pages.

Hillsdale Homeschool - K-12th

<https://k12athome.hillsdale.edu>

Liberty University Online Academy - K-12th

<https://www.liberty.edu/online-academy/>

Freedom Project Academy - K-12th

<https://fpeusa.org>

Gather Round - preK-12th

<https://gatherroundhomeschool.com>

Abeka - preK-12th

<https://www.abeka.com>

Enlightium Academy - K-12th

<https://www.enlightiumacademy.com/topics/home-school/williamson-county-tn-homeschooling-overview>

Power Homeschool - preK-12th

<https://www.powerhomeschool.org>

Private Schools:

The Classical Academy of Franklin - preK-12th

<http://tcafranklin.org>

M-F - 7:55am-3:25pm

Generations Christian Academy - preK-8th

<https://www.generationschristianacademy.org> - preK-8th

M-F - 8am-3pm

Thales Academy – preK-5

<https://www.thalesacademy.org/>

Wonder Woods Nature School - ages 3-5

<https://wonderwoodsnatureschool.org>

Grace Christian Academy – PreK-12

<https://www.gcalions.com/apps/pages/headofschool>

Franklin Christian Academy – 5th-12th

<https://www.franklinchristianacademy.org/about>

Spring Hill Christian Academy – K-5

<https://www.shchristian.com>

Five Flavors of Homeschooling

The Flavors

- Traditional

A separate textbook and/or workbook for each subject.

Read the information, answer the questions (multiple choice, T/F, short answer). Remember the facts until the test.

"Know"

- Classical

Based on the Trivium

Grammar Stage (ages 6–10): absorb and memorize facts

Dialectic Stage (ages 10–12): emphasize logic and why's behind

facts Rhetoric Stage (ages 13–18): add persuasive use of language

"Think"

- Charlotte Mason

Living books instead of textbooks

Narration instead of questioning

Emphasizes ideas over dry facts

A wide variety of subjects; a broad curriculum

"Grow"

- Unit Studies

Arranges all subjects around a common theme

Usually lots of hands-on projects

"Do"

- Unschooling

Child-directed

No set curriculum or agenda

"Live"

Find Your Favorite

If you . . .

- are concerned about keeping lock-step with the local school system **(T)**
- don't necessarily want a plan; prefer to be spontaneous **(N)**
- place great emphasis on having facts memorized **(T, C)**
- love hands-on projects and activities and don't mind spending the time to prepare them **(U)**
- think the teacher should be the fountain-head of all knowledge **(T, C, U)**
- want school to be rigorous and challenging **(C)**
- don't want to be different **(T, C, U)**
- love the idea of learning from good literature and books that make the subject come alive **(L)**
- want to use natural, gentle methods while holding them to a high standard **(L)**
- like having the child decide what to learn and when **(N)**
- want to linger with art, nature, handicrafts, music, and more **(L, N)**
- want to teach the way you were taught; not have to put forth the effort of decision **(T)**
- believe that true education comes from a personal relation with what is being studied, not just recognition **(L, N)**
- want your children to learn how to self-educate **(L, N)**
- live and die by standardized test scores **(T, C)**
- want to teach all your children together for as many subjects as possible **(L, U)**
- want each child to be on his or her own separate track for everything **(T, C, N)**
- want something that will work for a special needs child **(any)**
- something that will work well for a large family **(any)**
- something that will work well for an only child **(any)**
- need to tuck homeschooling around your work schedule **(any)**
- need something your spouse or the grandparents can do parts of **(any, depending on the spouse or grandparent)**
- want your child to be prepared to do well in college **(any)**
- want your child to be prepared to do well in adult life **(any)**
- want to emphasize good character development and Biblical discipleship **(any)**

T = Traditional
C = Classical
L = Charlotte Mason
U = Unit Studies
N = Unschooling

Different publishers cater to different flavors of homeschooling.

Choosing Curriculum

You can . . .

Get it to-go.

Put together ready-made components.

Make all of it from scratch.

Read the labels!

- Is it a good fit for this season of life?
- Does it help you reach your goals?
- Does it help you meet legal requirements?
- Does it agree with your personal standards?

Using Curriculum

- Teach the child, not the curriculum.
- Make the curriculum your servant, not your master.
- You have freedom to change if something isn't working.
- Curriculum is not a magic bullet.

Curriculum and Resource Providers

Traditional

A Beka
Accelerated Christian Education (ACE) Alpha Omega
Bob Jones
Christian Liberty Press
Christian Light Education
Landmark's Freedom Baptist Curriculum Paradigm Accelerated Curriculum (PAC) Rod and Staff Curriculum

Classical

BiblioPlan
Classical Academic Press
Classical Conversations
FreedomProject Education (online classes) Memoria Press
Veritas Press
Well-Trained Mind/Peace Hill Press

Charlotte Mason

A Delectable Education
Ambleside Online
Living Books Curriculum
Simply Charlotte Mason

Unit Studies

Amanda Bennett
Cornerstone Curriculum
Five in a Row
Heart of Wisdom (combined approach) Konos
Weaver (from Alpha Omega)

Unschooling

(whatever)

Combinations

Heart of Dakota
Master Books
My Father's World
Mystery of History
Sonlight
Tapestry of Grace