

# **Guide One** **How to start** **homeschooling**

# Introduction

**Here at EdPlace we know that choosing to home educate your child is no small undertaking. And yet, deciding to teach your child at home can be one of the most rewarding decisions you'll ever make. So much so that, according to the BBC, the number of children being homeschooled had risen by 40% in the three years prior to 2018!**

Here at EdPlace we like to think we're the one-stop shop for all your queries and questions about home education. We'll be your helpful hero and your educational guide, with you every step of the way; from the moment you make the decision to the day your child takes their GCSEs.



“It’s a dangerous business, Frodo, going out your door. You step onto the road, and if you don’t keep your feet, there’s no knowing where you might be swept off to.” – J R R Tolkien



We're here to help you keep your feet, to be the Gandalf to your Frodo. Read on to see where the wonderful world of home education might take you and your child!



# Chapter 1:

## Where to begin



### Your rights...

UK parents enjoy a huge amount of freedom when it comes to educating their children. As a parent in the **UK you have every right to educate your child at home, either full or part time**. You **don't even need permission**, provided you are ticking all the boxes as you go (keep reading to find out which boxes need ticking!).

In keeping with the 1996 Education Act it is a legal requirement to ensure a child is given a full time education appropriate to their “age, ability and aptitude” upon reaching the age of five. That education can be received in a formal school setting or at home from you.

The term ‘legal requirements’ may well bring a little sweat to your brow and a first read over the 1996 Education Act might make home education seem like a daunting task. However, EdPlace aims to make homeschooling your child and jumping through the hoops as straight forward and easy as possible leaving you free to inspire your child’s learning. You’ve got this, parent!

### Who to inform...

If your child is currently registered in a UK-based school you will need to inform the Headmaster or Headmistress in writing that you will be withdrawing your child from formal education. If you wish to teach your child full time at home then the school will have to accept your decision.

If, however, you’re hoping to divide your child’s education between school and home on a part time basis you will need the Head’s agreement. They do have the right to refuse to accept your child on a flexi basis, so there may be some negotiation involved here.

If your child has never been registered in a school and you have not applied for a place for them, then there is no need for you to inform anyone of your wish to homeschool. It is recommended by some local councils that you do inform them of your intention to homeschool your child, however, you certainly don’t have to if you don’t want to.

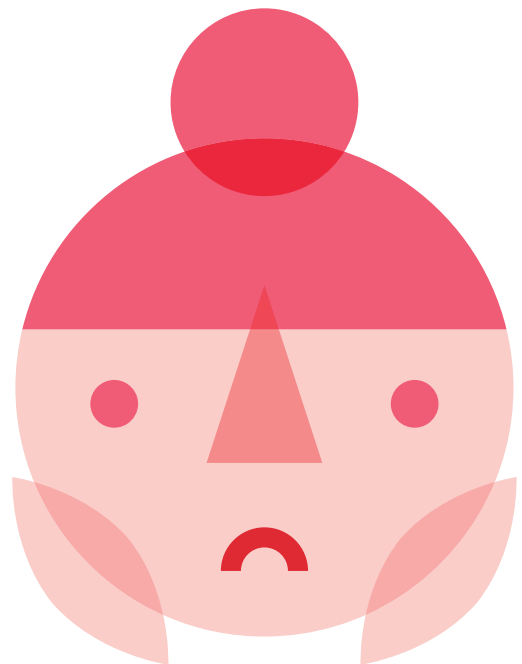
Your local authority has a duty of care to ensure that all children are receiving their legal entitlement to education and therefore, even if you choose not to inform them directly, you can probably expect to hear from them in the future. Most councils like to maintain active and supportive communication with home educators to ensure that the children are having all of their academic needs met.

# Chapter 2:

## Do I need to worry about Ofsted?

If you've ever uttered the word 'Ofsted' around a teacher you'll be familiar with the look of pale horror and the slightly green tinge of dread at the mere thought of official school inspections.

The good news is that, as a home educator, **you are not legally subject to any such formal checks or inspections.** Rejoice! However, as we mentioned earlier, your local authority will likely wish to keep an informal dialog running with you in order to ensure that you are providing a suitable education for your child. While you are under no obligation to do so it will likely work in your favour and, at the very least, help to avoid any unnecessary stress to maintain an open rapport with your local council.



# Chapter 3:

## Getting started with teaching

So, you've done it, you've decided to take the plunge and homeschool your child. Awesome! You've informed your child's school and you've set up a space in your home for lessons. Now the only thing to decide is what your lessons will contain and how will you deliver them.

The great news is that you don't need to be a qualified teacher to be able to home educate, so there's no need to check out the nearest teaching courses (unless you want to of course!). As a home educator you also have a huge amount of freedom when it comes to deciding what to teach your child and you are under no obligation whatsoever to follow the National Curriculum, although many parents choose to do so.

If you are new to teaching and education you might find the National Curriculum a good starting point from which to draft your own scheme of work, and from that foundation you could then tailor your curriculum to your child, their interests and abilities. The world really is your educational oyster and EdPlace is here to help you find that pedagogy pearl!

All of our resources, interactive worksheets, assessments and revision materials have been written and designed by experienced teachers and are aligned to the National Curriculum. Once you've decided what you'd like to teach read on to find some brilliant tips and guidance from the professional and experienced teachers at EdPlace on planning and delivering your lessons.



# Why ed place?

**EdPlace is here to be your homeschooling partner! We're fully comprehensive from Year 1 all the way up to GCSE in English, maths and science. Our activities, assessments and revision materials are used and trusted by many homeschooling parents. Progress reports provide visibility to your child's development - we want to see them flourish, that's what we're here for afterall!**

We're here to help your child soar to success! Our mission is to create invincible learners by building a foundation on inspiration, knowledge and confidence, all with a sprinkle of EdPlace magic.



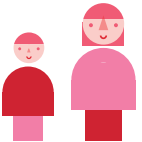
## **Comprehensive**

1000s of English, maths and science activities, assessments and revision materials from Year 1 - GCSE.



## **Effective**

EdPlace students progress 150% in a school year!



## **SEND accessible**

Our accessibility toolbar makes online learning accessible to all students, no matter their learning difference. Change fonts, colours, text sizes and even languages (we have over 150!)



## **Personalised**

Tailored learning journey based on each student's needs.



## **Student-approved**

Badges and personalised rewards help make learning fun and tailored to each individual.

**Subscriptions from just £10 a month**

**Start your 14-day trial for just £1 by visiting [edplace.com](https://www.edplace.com).**