



veritas

Ready For A Better Way To Learn?



7 STEPS

to inspire the change to your family's educational path.

Transitioning to an online learning environment, and a different curriculum, is a bit of a challenge...but well worth considering! Veritas Press helps you prepare to homeschool with the right strategies and mindset—making it a successful and enjoyable experience for your entire family.

We've put together seven encouraging steps for you to consider.

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Supporting your family every step of the way is important to us at Veritas, to say the least. Our classical Christian education cultivates the wisdom students need to navigate life's complexities. And we want to empower families to pursue the education that fits their goals. Veritas meets families where they are in their educational journey and equips them to take the next steps they deem best for their children.

In this guidebook, we've put together seven savvy tips from what we've experienced over the years to help you embark on your homeschooling journey, starting with research on homeschooling laws and different educational philosophies. Then, get prepared to understand the new curriculum, your child's learning style and "stage," and ways to keep everything flowing in the home learning environment. When you homeschool, it is helpful to build a community, and we will give you some tips on that front. Whatever you might need, we've tried to include it here. We are available to personally answer any questions you have at any time. [You can reach out to us directly here.](#)

>> Let's get started!

1 Research Educational Requirements in Your Area

Before stepping onto a new educational path, there are some important things to understand, like online education and homeschool laws. Looking over the specific regulations for where you live will help you design an informed “roadmap” as a homeschooling parent.

From legal requirements, to curriculum guidelines, and even required standardized tests and reporting—these are all parts of the journey. No need to feel overwhelmed! Understanding these requirements will help you craft realistic expectations for your family’s academic future. The [Homeschool Legal Defense Association](#) (HSLDA) may be a helpful resource to you as you seek to be better informed.



2 Understand Different Educational Philosophies

The educational community is bursting with diverse approaches and philosophies—some old, some new. At Veritas, our classical approach is solidly based in the [Trivium](#)’s three developmental stages, ensuring your student not only learns what to think but also how to think—with a biblical emphasis and worldview. Ours is a time-tested, proven educational approach that leverages recent innovations in learning technologies.

It’s good to understand that there is flexibility in HOW you teach within any curriculum. Many parents mix-and-match teaching philosophies, taking what resonates from multiple methods. It’s so rewarding to find the academic framework that fits best with your family’s needs. Veritas has distinguished itself as a learning partner that equips you to adapt and refine what works best for your student’s specific needs, through three ways to learn: [Live](#), [You-Teach](#) and [Self Paced](#).

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3 Familiarize Yourself with New Curricula

Take the time to really get to know the new curricula for your child's education—delve into materials, teacher guides, and online resources. At Veritas, you'll also have access to a [Family Consultant](#) who will help guide you on your journey. This may take a while—but we've all been there and found it to be worth the effort! A few ways you can get familiar with curricula include:



Read the Materials: Read curricular materials carefully, including teacher guides, textbooks, workbooks, and other resources. Focus on the "scope and sequence" to understand what your child will learn each year.



Attend Workshops and Conventions: Curriculum providers often host workshops or webinars to inform parents how best to use their materials. These sessions can offer valuable insights into teaching strategies—enhancing your ability to implement curricula effectively. Check out [Great Homeschool Conventions](#) and [Teach Them Diligently](#) for some friendly guidance!



Join Online Communities: Join online homeschooling communities to connect with parents who have experience with the same educational approach and curriculum. These groups are goldmines for insights, where you can ask questions, swap stories, and learn from fellow users. [Facebook homeschooling groups](#) are fantastic starting points!



Get to Know Your Veritas Family Consultant: At Veritas, you will get to know us by working with a dedicated consultant who will help you understand our curriculum and the educational pathways available to your child. [You can set up an initial consultation here.](#)

By diving into materials, seeking counsel from others who have carved these paths before, and engaging with communities of other homeschoolers, you'll be set to confidently guide your child's academic pursuits.

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4 Understand Your Child's Learning Style and Stage

Every student learns differently, and their needs change at each developmental stage. At Veritas, we follow the classical education model of the [Trivium](#), which aligns with children's natural developmental learning stages. As a parent, you play detective in uncovering your child's learning style and understanding their developmental stages. Here, we'll share steps to discover and implement the perfect learning approach for your child!

Identify Your Child's Learning Style: Pay attention to how your child naturally gravitates towards certain activities or methods while learning, and then jump into this [article](#) to help you better grasp their learning style. Also, consider your child's age to hone in on their likely stage of academic development. You can view these stages in "[Discovering Online Classical Christian Education](#)."

Customize Your Teaching Methods to Style and Stage: Once you've discovered your child's learning style and pinpointed their developmental stage (as understood through the lens of the Trivium), it's time to tailor your teaching methods.



Visual Learners: Use visual aids, diagrams, and charts to illustrate concepts. Incorporate colorful materials to encourage reading and writing.



Auditory Learners: Engage in discussions, explain concepts verbally, and use audio resources like podcasts or audiobooks.



Kinesthetic Learners: Include hands-on activities, experiments, and interactive projects. Allow appropriate/adequate movement during lessons.



Reading/Writing Learners: Provide sufficient reading materials (they tend to ask for it!), encourage journaling, and offer opportunities for writing essays or reports.

Flexibility and Experimentation: Stay open in regards to your teaching approach as your children's learning styles evolve. Experiment intelligently with different methods, chat with your child about their preferences, and consider their stage every step of the way. Build a "learning relationship" with them—they'll never forget it.

Remember that adapting to a child's learning style, and teaching according to their respective [development stage](#), is about giving your student a well-rounded education. Stay tuned in (listen well), be patient, and remain flexible as you tailor your teaching methods to fit your child's learning, developmental, and social needs.



5 Set Realistic Expectations

Your new educational path will be different from traditional schooling. Be patient and set realistic expectations for both yourself and your children. Remember, adjusting to a new routine and curriculum will take some time.



Work With Your Child's Abilities and Needs: You've discovered your child's learning style and [Trivium-based academic stage](#) in the previous step. To be successful, you should periodically assess how things are going for your student—and there are tools to help! You might look for placement tests and assessments that will help you set realistic goals and expectations for progress (Veritas can help you do this). Setting goals that are too ambitious or not aligned with your child's abilities can lead to frustration and disappointment.



Start Small and Adapt: When you're new to homeschooling, start with a manageable workload and gradually increase it as you become more comfortable with the process. Be discerning about the subjects or activities you choose to invest in your child. Your Veritas [Family Consultant](#) or Academic Advisor can help you create a schedule that sets you up to begin with a few core subjects, and to gradually incorporate additional studies as your child becomes more accustomed to the routine. Be flexible and willing to adjust your expectations based on your child's progress and feedback.

Remember, there is no "one-size-fits-all" approach. By understanding your child's needs and starting with realistic expectations, you can create a successful and enjoyable educational experience for you and your child.

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6 Create a Structured Schedule

This is one of the most essential steps for success! While there is arguably more scheduling freedom in the world of home education, too much freedom without the right structure can make it hard to complete a course of study, provide a sense of stability in a child's routine, to or to accomplish what you want for your child academically. When you establish a weekly and even daily schedule, your child will adapt to a new learning environment, understand what's expected of them, and even foster greater peace in your home! But you don't have to do it alone; there are tools to help build the right schedule for your family.



Traditional Planner or Calendar: Use a physical planner or calendar to map out your schedule. You can designate specific time blocks for each subject, breaks, and other activities. This tangible format can be effective for those who prefer a hands-on approach. You can find printable homeschool planners online on sites like [Teachers Pay Teachers](#).



Online Calendar Apps: Utilize online calendar applications like Google Calendar or Microsoft Outlook. These tools help you create digital schedules that can be accessed from any device with internet access. You can color-code subjects, set recurring events for regular classes, and receive notifications for upcoming lessons. Google Calendar in particular is free and user-friendly.



Homeschool Planning Software: Consider leveraging homeschool planning software designed specifically for homeschoolers. These tools often provide customizable features to plan lessons, track progress, and organize your homeschooling schedule efficiently. An excellent option for this is [Homeschool Planet](#).

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7 Connect With Other Families

Search out and participate in communities for homeschooling families, both online and in your local area. Networking with other families can provide valuable support, advice, and opportunities for your child to socialize with peers.



Join In-Person Associations or Co-ops: Many cities have homeschooling associations or co-ops where families come together for educational and social activities. These organizations often offer support, group classes, field trips, and events.



Join Online Communities: Look for homeschooling groups or associations through online searches and social media. You can type "homeschool+your city or state name" into the Facebook Groups search, and more local groups will appear. Also, don't be shy about asking other homeschooling families you may know about networking groups.



Attend Conferences and Events: Look for regional homeschooling conferences, workshops, and events. These gatherings offer opportunities to meet other parents, attend informative sessions, and explore resources. And conferences feature speakers and curriculum vendors.



Get Involved at Veritas: Veritas provides many ways to connect with other families through extracurricular activities like field trips, mission trips, clubs, student and parent-focused networking groups, and online cohorts formed through our live classes.

Additionally, consider reaching out to homeschooling parents you may encounter in your local community, such as at the library, park, or extracurricular activities. Building connections with other families can provide a sense of community, opportunities for collaboration, and a support network to help you navigate the challenges and joys of homeschooling.

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Moving to a new way of learning means researching, adapting to new curricula, understanding how your student learns, and building new community outlets and connections. Finding the best academic pathway for your family is a significant and rewarding investment! We'd love to help make the transition as seamless as possible for you, and be alongside you as you determine your next steps.

Reach out to us!

LEARN MORE AT
[www.veritaspress.com!](http://www.veritaspress.com)