

IS HOMESCHOOLING THE RIGHT DECISION?

by:

Mary Grace D. Bagtas

Teacher III, Pablo Roman National High School

Homeschooling had been one of the most debated topics in education. A lot of people have trouble convincing how or if a child can develop social skills when homeschooled. According to Education Corner, homeschooling which is also referred to as home-based learning is an educational process where parents or tutors teach children at home. On the other hand, social development is defined as the ability of an individual in society to achieve their full potential. It includes their capability to invest in people, removing barriers towards their dreams with confidence and dignity, and moving forward on their path to self-sufficiency.

There are reasons why parents prefer homeschooling. It includes the quality of education provided in their area, the desire of parents to be more involved in the educational development of their children, and the safe environment of those who are living in the places far from the school. In the current situation, the risks brought by the effects of the global pandemic made homeschooling more appealing.

However, homeschooling is not effective for everyone. When parents decide to homeschool their children, they have to consider several factors.

Time. It is one of the most important issues that need to be addressed when you decide to homeschool your child. Parents need to take responsibility for educating their children and set aside their work. They need time to organize and prepare lessons, teach and give examinations to their children. This will become extra challenging to parents who do not have a background in education.

Socialization. Children may not have many opportunities to interact with other children unlike when they attend regular schools. In a normal classroom setup, students can play and make friends with classmates of the same age. Socializing and having a relationship with other children is very important in their developmental health and social skills. Lack of socialization may affect their development in the later stages of life.

Lack of Facilities. It is impossible to homeschool your child if you do not have the equipment that could facilitate learning. For classes like physics, chemistry, and biology, it is important to provide the necessary laboratory apparatus needed to experiment. Homes might also lack facilities for sports like gym and fields.

Motivation. Lack of motivation is one of the negative effects of homeschooling. Most students need to be challenged to excel in their studies. They want to thrive in competitions inside and outside their classroom. Students who were homeschooled would not have this motivation because most of them are educated separately.

Homeschooling is an international endeavor. Millions of families around the world have decided to take their children's education into their own hands. Whether we choose to homeschool our child or not, parents still play a vital role in education. They are the ones who influence the children's attitude and support learning at home. A positive and supportive relationship between home and school can only be achieved if educators and parents work hand in hand.

References:

For teachers by Teachers, The Negative Effects and Aspects of Homeschooling, retrieved from <http://www.middleschool.net/negative-homeschooling.htm>, June 28, 2021

Education Corner, Home Schooling, retrieved from <https://www.educationcorner.com/k12-home-schooling.html>, June 28, 2021