

simply homeschool

Simply Homeschool Journey Journal

HOMESCHOOLING INTENTIONALLY WITH CONFIDENCE
By Karen Willson



Day 1 We are raising adults...

How old are your children currently?

What is your daily life like now?



Through their eyes - what is your child's daily life like now?

What would you like your days/week to look like?

What are your dreams for your child/children?

What are their dreams?

What might they be doing in 10 years?

What might YOU be doing in 10 years?

Day 2 I am a good parent...

What do you find most challenging about parenting?

What aspects of parenting are you most competent?

What aspects of parenting do you feel most confident?

Which areas of parenting would you most like to grow?

What resources could you use to help you grow as a parent?

What choices can you make to grow as a parent?

Do you have a parenting mentor – someone you trust for advice?

Do you share parenting with someone else (this might be your husband/wife/partner/other parent/your own parent or a friend)?

How is this shared parenting hindering/helping your parenting?

What is one choice you can make to make this more beneficial for you and your children?



Day 3 Support & Advice...

What aspects of starting homeschool would you like support with right now?



Who are the homeschoolers you most admire and trust?

What aspects of parenting and homeschooling do you think they do well?

What aspects of their homeschool journey would you like to incorporate into your own journey?

What choices are you facing right now?

Who will you ask for support and advice?

Simply Homeschool offers support and advice.

Check out our videos on our Fb Page <https://www.facebook.com/familytime/>

Email karen@simplyhomeschool.com.au

Text 0407020710 for a call back.

Day 4 Community and Support...

Describe your ideal Homeschool Tribe

Who would you most like to share your Journey with?



Establishing My Tribal Village - Checklist

- ☐ Search for my local Homeschool Network
- ☐ Plan to meet with others locally
- ☐ Attend a homeschool excursion
- ☐ Join a group class/activity
- ☐ Participate in a community/cultural activity
- ☐ Build a relationship with another homeschool family
- ☐ Find an Online Group with other like-minded homeschoolers
- ☐ Check out the [Simply Homeschool Community Group](#)
- ☐ Consider attending a yearly camp – check out [Simply Homeschool](#)
- ☐ [Camps](#) Other ideas...

It takes a village to raise a child...so create your village

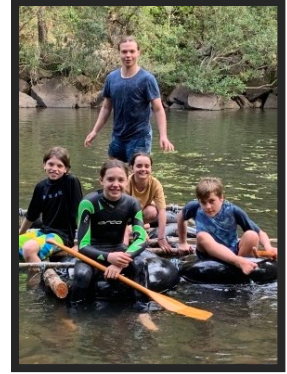
Day 5 Character...

Consider your child as a whole person.

Where is your child at now?

What are your goals for your child in each of the following areas?

What is one thing you can do to help them to grow in each area?



CHARACTER	Where are they now?	Character Goals	1 Thing to do
RELATIONAL			
SPIRITUAL			
EMOTIONAL			
PHYSICAL			
MENTAL			
CULTURAL			
SOCIAL			

Curriculum that really matters – who they are becoming

Day 6 Real Life Skills...

Which Real Life Skills would you like your child to develop this year? Think practical first – food preparation, using the washing machine, cleaning the bathroom, learning to drive, folding clothes, wiping up, sweeping the floor, mowing the lawn...



Organisation, cleanliness, tidiness and responsibility all underly the practical real-life skills our kids need to develop. Which one of these skills does your child need the most? Why?

Select and prioritize the top 3 life skills you want your child to develop this year

How could you incorporate practicing these skills into their week?

Daily chores are an important part of homeschool! Consider setting up a daily chores roster.

You are an adult in the real world, you know what your child needs to be a competent and confident adult.

Day 7 Reading...

Does your child need to develop their reading skills? If so – what specifically would you like them to achieve this year?

How do you plan to do this? Do you need a reading program?

If so, which Reading Program will you use?

- ☐ Creative Phonics in [Simply Homeschool](#)
- ☐ [Toe By Toe](#)
- ☐ Other -

Does your child have learning difficulties? If so, do you need extra professional support?

Where will you access this?

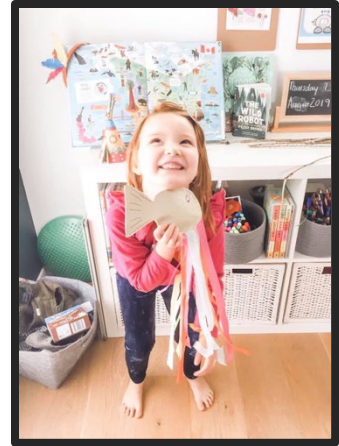
Would Audio Books help you to provide rich literature for your child?

Check out <https://www.audible.com.au/> Some Simply Homeschool books are available in Audible. Visit

Just Good Books in Simply Homeschool and list:

10 books to read aloud with my kids this year

10 books for my child to read this year



**Excellent Literature is the best resource for reading.
Avoid Twaddle – choose Just Good Books!**

Day 8 Writing...

What are your child's current writing skills?

What skills do they need to develop?

- ☐ Letter recognition
- ☐ Letter formation
- ☐ Spelling
- ☐ Handwriting
- ☐ Grammar
- ☐ Punctuation
- ☐ Note-taking
- ☐ Sentence Construction
- ☐ Writing from a Key word outline
- ☐ Paragraph Structure
- ☐ Essay Writing



How will you help your child to develop their writing skills? Which strategies/resources do you plan to use?

- ☐ Learn to write - from the beginning - Creative Phonics (Simply Homeschool)
- ☐ Integrated writing program - Write in Colour (Simply Homeschool)
- ☐ Real Life writing opportunities – shopping lists, notes, letters...
- ☐ Offer to write for my child to help them develop skills in grammar, note-taking, sentence construction – see our FAQ in Simply Homeschool for more details
- ☐ Handwriting – Creative Spelling and Creative Phonics both include handwriting
- ☐ Typing – There are lots of online options with free trials
- ☐ Voice to Text – most technology has this option
- ☐ Essay Writing Skills (Simply Homeschool Core Programs)

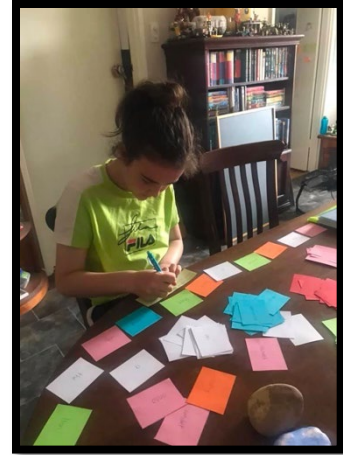
Learning to write is a complex process. Scaffolding this process helps our kids gain confidence in writing.

Day 9 Maths...

What is your child's current attitude to maths?

What maths skills do they need to learn this year?

How do you feel about maths?



Do you need a maths program to help you provide good maths for your child? Use this chart to help you choose the most appropriate Simply Homeschool maths for your child:

	Textbook	Hands On	Online	Living Books	Real Life	Grade	Cost Comparison
Maths Core Programs in Simply Homeschool	SAP	Yes		Yes	Yes	K-4	Lessons free with membership + books various prices
Maths Online			Yes			All	50% Discount in Simply Homeschool \$150 per year
Life of Fred	Yes			Yes		All	About \$100 per year Reusable
SAP Maths	Yes					K-7	Less than \$20 per year - Consumable
ICE-em Maths	Yes	Yes	Yes			5-10	Discount through Simply Homeschool \$70 Reusable
Khan Academy			Yes			All	Free
Integrated Core Programs*		Yes		Yes	Yes	K-8	Lessons free with membership + books various prices

*A Year on our Farm, Think of a Number, The Story of Clocks and Calendars, Food Tech & Everything!

"Mathematics is the language with which God wrote the universe" - Galileo

Day 10 The World

The world covers all your other subjects.

Consider all the ways and places your child learns about the world - keep it simple. Our kids learn about the world through:

- Books
- Documentaries
- Excursions
- Interaction with others
- Discussions
- Hands on activities
- Internet research

Simply Homeschool Core Programs are designed to grow your children's understanding of the world through engaging books, integrated writing and hands-on activities. Each Core Program includes an integrated mix of many of the above strategies to inspire your learning and make your planning manageable.

If you are homeschooling more than one child, plan to learn about the world together using a combination of strategies. Our homeschool life is more manageable when we don't have to include 6 separate subjects for multiple ages and abilities!

If you'd like help and support or ideas:

- Visit [Simply Homeschool](#) to add Core Programs to your Family Learning Plan
- Watch [Introduction to Simply Homeschool](#)
- Join the [Simply Homeschool Community Group](#)
- Email karen@simplyhomeschool.com.au
- Text Karen on 0407020710

The Challenge - Choose ONLY 3 activities or Simply Homeschool Core Programs to cover every area of "The WORLD" Curriculum

Activity Or Core Program	Science	HASS	The Arts	Health & Phys Ed	Technology	Languages

Day 11 The Go Outside Challenge (Otherwise known as Digital Detox)

Make a plan to get your family outside –with no screens! What activities can you plan to make this achievable?



1. Go outside – one hour every day (walk the dog, swim at the beach, skate park...) Start small – this one is my most challenging! I sometimes aim for 5 minutes in the garden, eat lunch outside, bring the bins in, hang out the washing and walk to the letterbox!
2. One day (or half day) every week (picnics, longer walks, bike rides...) For us – it's Surfing lessons and Sunday afternoon at the beach.
3. Spend consecutive days (a week if you can) once a year (camping, Simply Homeschool Camps - link) We go camping – I aim for 3 times per year – Katoomba Easter Convention, Simply Homeschool Wangat Camp, and our own family week.

In all things of nature there is something of the marvelous -
Aristotle

Day 12 Passion & Future...

Identifying Passion

What are your child's current passions? (Chickens, kites, dancing, surfing, fishing, horses, Minecraft, guitar, piano, art, Lego, slime, reading, audiobooks, puzzles, sewing, photography...)



Encouraging Passion

If they are healthy passions – how can you encourage them and provide opportunity for them to develop these passions? (Resources, lessons, time to take them somewhere, active involvement...)

Igniting Passion

Often our children become passionate when provided with new opportunities. What new opportunities can you provide for your child this year? Core Programs and excursions can ignite passions – my daughter's latest passion is Illuminated Letters ignited by a Core Program and a set of metallic markers.

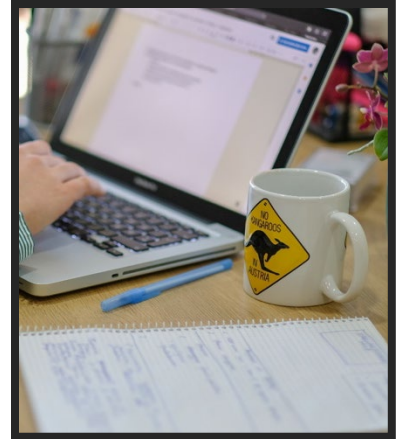
Curbing Unhealthy Passion

Sometimes our children have unhealthy passions – such as too much gaming! This is a challenging part of parenting and sometimes takes some tough boundaries. I'm no expert. Write your thoughts about your child's passions. If you need support to parent these challenges well, consider who you might contact for support.

Consider where their passion might lead them

Day 13 What About the Curriculum and Registration?

Now that you know what you really plan to do with your child this year, the only tricky thing is presenting this to your State Registration Body in a way that ticks their boxes. In some States/Territories, this is very easy. In others, it is more challenging.



If you need help with Registration, this is something we do!

You can purchase your Registration Document in our Resource Shop in Simply Homeschool

The Curriculum is designed so that children who spend over 15,000 hours of their childhood in a confined space with a limited group of people will meet some of the same content and activities that homeschool kids meet in their rich, varied daily life in the real world.

Day 14 Useful Resources – My Wish List

Look back through everything you have already decided. Make your wish list below, then prioritize these to fit your budget.

Keep it simple – which items will provide the most benefit for your children?



Day 15 Confidence

You know your child!

You love your child!



List the 3 things you know about your child

☐☐☐

List the 3 things you love about your child

☐☐☐

List the 3 things you have determined to include in your Learning Journey this year

☐☐☐

Take a deep breath!

**There is no teacher more motivated than a parent who wants
to give their child a good education!**

Simply Homeschool Links

www.simplyhomeschool.com.au

[Create Your Free Trial](#)

[Discover More](#)

[FAQ](#)

[Camps](#)

[Why Homeschool](#)

[Homeschooling in Australia](#)

[Blog](#)

[Styles of Homeschool](#)

[Can I Homeschool My Child With Special Needs](#)

[Simply Homeschool Facebook Page](#)

[Simply Homeschool Community Group](#) (Note - this is available to trial or full members)

