# Homeschool First-Year Planning Checklist

Check each box when it is done. Write your own answers on the lines.

Family name: _____ State: _____ School year: _____

## 1. Check your state's rules

- ☐ Find my state education department's homeschool page. Date I checked: _____
- ☐ Read my state's page on HSLDA's legal map. Date I checked: _____
- ☐ Notice of intent or other filing needed? Yes / No. Due date: _____
- ☐ Testing or assessment needed? Yes / No. What and when: _____
- ☐ Records I must keep (attendance, hours, portfolio, other): _____
- ☐ Steps to withdraw my child from a current school, if any: _____

## 2. Choose an approach and a curriculum

- ☐ Approach I will try first (or a mix): _____
- ☐ How my child likes to learn: _____
- ☐ Budget for the year: $ _____

| Subject | Curriculum or book | Lessons | Per week |
|---|---|---|---|
| Reading and writing | | | |
| Math | | | |
| Science | | | |
| Social studies | | | |

## 3. Plan the year

- ☐ First day of school: _____ Last day: _____
- ☐ Weeks in my year: _____ x lesson days per week: _____ = total lesson days: _____
- ☐ Term dates and breaks (for example, four terms): _____
- ☐ Goals for each child, one page per goal, with steps and dates.
- ☐ Plan only the next few weeks in detail. Use pencil for anything further out.

## 4. Set up a schedule and a space

- ☐ Main spot for school supplies: _____
- ☐ Daily routine written down and posted where everyone can see it.
- ☐ Supplies bought or borrowed (paper, pencils, books, art supplies, a computer if needed).

## 5. Find support

- ☐ Homeschool groups or co-ops I will contact: _____
- ☐ Families who already homeschool that I can ask questions: _____
- ☐ Classes or activities outside the home (music, sports, art, library programs): _____

## 6. Keep records from day one

- ☐ Attendance log started (paper or digital).
- ☐ Folder or box for a dated work sample from each child each week or month.
- ☐ Log for outside activities, field trips, and volunteering.
- ☐ Copy of every form I file and every letter I receive about homeschooling.

## 7. Check in

- ☐ After 4 weeks: what is working, what is not, what will I change? _____
- ☐ Midyear: review goals, pace, and budget with my child.

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