

THE BLESSINGS OF OUTSOURCING:

Bringing Peace and Productivity to Your Home

GETTING STARTED

- Evaluate the Needs of Your Home and Family
- Determine Areas of Strength and Weakness
- Consider Your Options and Limitations

I. WHAT TO OUTSOURCE

- A. Academics
- B. Extracurricular
- C. Household

II. WHEN TO OUTSOURCE

- A. Pre-School
- B. Primary
- C. Grammar
- D. Upper

III. WHY (AND WHY NOT) TO OUTSOURCE

- A. Pros
- B. Cons

IV. WHERE TO OUTSOURCE

- A. In-Person
- B. Virtual

THE PROS AND CONS OF OUTSOURCING

"If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you." --James 1:5

THE PROS

- Provides margin for you and your family's schedule
- Allows you to serve your family more efficiently, flexibility at home
- Contributes positively to your mental and emotional health
- Professional help for special needs (*therapies, specialized instruction, etc.*)
- Master teachers (*hopefully*) through MPOA, tutorial, video series, etc.
- Relationships with other children and adults (*co/op, tutorial, sports*)
- Like-minded friendships
- Other adult voices to encourage (*in academics and extracurricular*)
- Provides accountability
- Another set of eyes to help see areas of concern
- Older kids outsourced in tough classes frees up time to help younger kids
- Younger kids outsourced in foundational years frees up time to help older kids
- Get help with subjects you can't or don't want to teach
- If applicable, someone else is grading (*MPOA*)
- Dual enrollment at community colleges for older high schoolers gives a taste of college with boundaries, helps reduce college costs, provides high level academics
- Helps you acknowledge your limitations

THE CONS

- Fixed schedule
- No vacations without consequences
- Learning differences can be hard to accommodate (*tutorial, MPOA, group classes*)
- Scattered feeling – all planning is not under your control
- COST!
- You give up control/authority
- Possible exposure to sickness
- Risk of not having a great instructor or teacher
- Online classes tie you to home
- Technology issues
- Feel like less of a homeschooler
- One or all of your children are away from home for all/part of the day/week
- Harder to "drop everything" for family needs
- Must be mindful of due dates, meeting obligations, pacing
- Routines and schedule disrupted for commitments away from home
- Less up to date with what your children are learning
- Need for school clothes or athletic uniforms, equipment, supplies
- Requires outside prep to be ready for classes; homework
- Not able to help your children when you haven't kept up with the prep for each subject
- More to manage and schedule
- Less cohesion within the home