



Thank you for your interest in True North Homeschool Community

Please take a look at this FAQ sheet. Most questions should be answered within this document. If you have further questions please feel free to reach out to our group administrator, Briana Cashman.

The Basics

Are you a christian or secular group?

[True North Homeschool Community](#) is a Non denominational Christian homeschool group that holds to traditional values and teaching philosophies.

Where are you located?

We are located at our host church [Hope Fellowship based out of Jaffrey, NH](#)
We have members from all over the Monadnock region as well as northern Mass.

Is this a drop off program?

At this time True North is NOT a drop off program. We are a fully volunteer-not for profit group of likeminded homeschoolers teaching our children alongside each other. Parent participation

(volunteer teaching or assisting in a class, substituting and serving the group) are mandatory. There are no exceptions to this rule.

How big is True North?

We have anywhere from 70-100+ students at any given time plus a large number of volunteer parent teachers. We DO have a cap on the number of students we may have in our community at any one time due to space.

What curriculum do you use?

Curricula are chosen by the lead teachers for each class and are submitted to the board for approval. All classes are taught from a Christian worldview. Curricula and classes offered may change from year to year.

When do you meet?

We meet most Mondays from 9:30-2:30. There are exceptions for holidays, church events or snow days.

We begin with a morning meeting then move to our two morning blocks of classes followed by lunch then an afternoon block of classes.

We meet between the months of September and June.

How much does it cost?

At the time of registration we collect \$50 per family with 1-3 children, \$15 for each additional child. This money helps pay for community supplies, background checks, insurance and to benefit our families.

Additionally, we do ask for families to consider 20/mo per family that we give as an offering to the church. 20% of total offerings are set aside for an end of year celebration, apparel, financial assistance etc.

This amount is subject to change in the future.

There are supply coverages associated with each class per student. This money goes specifically to cover the cost of supplies for the year for your specific child. There is no money left over and all of your money goes directly to cover the cost of supplies for that class for your child specifically.

What if we can't afford the cost?

We do not want an inability to pay to hinder a family's involvement in the group. Please speak with a board member about your concerns and we will be happy to help you how we can in regards to the monthly offering.

Unfortunately due to the nature of things we are not able to waive the supply coverage. The funds are required in full up front to cover the cost of materials.

Teaching Requirements

Membership demonstrates a willing heart to serve the group. All members are required to participate in co-op in a responsible manner. The success of our group depends on the cooperation and participation of all of our members. It takes a village to make TNHC run well.

*Being a member at TNHC is both a privilege and a responsibility. Each one of us has been given special gifts and talents. Being a member of True North Homeschool Community allows us to share those gifts and talents with other families. As a Christian organization, we strive to ensure that biblical Christian teaching and modeling are an attribute of our co-op. For this reason, families who wish to join TNHC must meet certain qualifications.

Parental commitment is required for membership into True North Homeschool Community for a minimum of 1 trimester, once a week from September until June, either teaching where you are comfortable or talented or helping out in classes as an assistant. The other option available is the position of a permanent substitute. Parents must also be willing to help with other jobs/tasks as needed. Although we strive to assign teacher/teacher's helper jobs per your request, we may need to assign jobs based on the needs of TNHC.

Once you have made a commitment to TNHC, please realize that we are counting on you. Should you change your mind, barring any family emergencies or illness, your family will not be eligible to reapply for the next school cycle.

I have a baby, can I keep them with me and still teach?

As long as your infant is able to be secured in a carrier or stroller of some sort and won't pose as a distraction, we welcome mothers with infants teaching in our classes!

Babies 6mo and older are able to be placed in our nursery.

I'm nervous or do not wish to LEAD teach a class. What are my options?

While involvement in teaching is required to participate we understand that standing in front of a class may not be in your wheelhouse.

If you do not wish to LEAD teach you may also apply to be an assistant teacher or a permanent substitute.

Classes, Grades ETC.

Do you offer any clubs or groups?

We encourage our members to feel free to host either a club or group of their choosing outside of normal cooperative hours. This may look like anything you wish from a lego club to a yearbook group. You may meet as often or as little as you wish, limit the number of people that are able to sign up and can run for 3 weeks or 6 months. Its totally up to you. Please note that facilitating a group does not count as teaching a class in the cooperative, this is in addition to the teaching requirement.

All groups and clubs that are affiliated with True North are expected to hold to our standard Christian Values including following our teacher/student guidelines as well as our statement of faith. Failure to comply with this could result in termination. We hold our community to a high standard.

What type of classes are offered at True North?

All of our classes are parent run. We offer classes based off who we have willing to teach! Typically we offer three core classes (ie: Science, history etc.) and three to four enrichment classes (art, home economics etc.) per grade.

How are your grade levels broken up?

We have a busy preschool and kindergarten program at True North.

We also have our elementary grade group (1st-4th)

Middle school grade group (5th-8th)

High school grade group (9th-12)

Each "grade group" will take their classes together. Work loads and difficulty are altered depending on students age, grade and ability.

Do you assign homework and grades?

We feel that it is important for our students to learn responsibility. While our lower grades may not be given regular homework, it is encouraged in our middle and high school grades. All homework is to be kept to a very reasonable amount according to each grade group.

Special projects and assignments do not count towards this.

GRADES: We encourage our teachers to keep grades in our community. We believe this fosters a sense of self responsibility and accountability as well as prepares our students for the “outside world”.

Grades are simply a way for our teachers to measure how well material is being absorbed and will act as a tool for parents throughout the year and during end of year assessments.

Assorted Policies

Sick policy:

We have a strict sick policy that can be found in our parent/teacher handbook.

Inclement weather:

We follow the Jaffrey school district weather decisions. If the Jaffrey school district is closed or delayed we will cancel cooperative for that day.

Attendance:

We do have an attendance policy. If you or your students miss more than three weeks for something aside from sickness or an emergency your spot will be forfeit. We have a long waitlist to join the group and we want to ensure that families are serious about their commitment to the group. Our admin and teachers have dedicated countless hours to the operation of the community and specifically classes so we want to make sure we are respecting their time by making the best use of it as a whole.