



The European Academy for Christian
Homeschooling

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PROSPECTUS

Introduction

Thank you for your interest in The European Academy for Christian Homeschooling (TEACH). We trust that the following information will help you and will answer most, if not all, of your questions. Should this not be the case, please do not hesitate to contact us by phone, fax, email or letter for further information.

The purpose of TEACH is to assist parents with the Biblical and God-given task of bringing up their own children in the fear and admonition of the Lord by giving them a Christian education through homeschooling.



In association with Accelerated Christian Education

About Home Education

Education at home has been the accepted educational method of most cultures. Being a parent **involves** educating your child. This is not a right or a privilege given by the state, but a God-given responsibility (Deuteronomy 6 v 5-7, Ephesians 6 v 4). Neither the parents nor the state can actually lay claim to ‘owning’ the child – only God can own us (Psalm 24 v 1). However, parents are clearly God’s stewards charged with the responsibility of educating their own children. Homeschooling involves discharging this responsibility yourself, rather than delegating it to someone else.

Home education diminished after the introduction of universally available state education at the end of the 19th century. It continued in Britain into the 20th century amongst the wealthy who could afford private tutors at home (examples of this include CS Lewis and the Queen). Because of this, the 1944 Education Act famously allowed for education either at school ‘or otherwise’. Over the last 30 years a modern home educating movement has grown up with the parents taking direct responsibility for educating their children.

However, home educating is not an end in itself; it is a means to an end. The end is the faithful discharge of our God-given responsibility to give our children a Christian upbringing and a Christian education – an education based on the conviction that Christianity is the truth. Home educating using ACE is a means to this end.

The Importance of the Family

One of the most interesting aspects of home education is the similarity and diversity found amongst families that have opted to teach their children in this way. The most common similarity is the firm conviction that the family can and must be the best environment for rearing and educating children. It is the most natural thing in the world for a child to learn and grow within its own family unit. When we examine the development and growth of young children, it is not difficult to see that those who are best developed are raised in a stable family relationship. Psychologists tell us that a child learns most of what is required for human communication and life skills between the ages of 1 and 5, when the child is in the constant company of its mother. Parents educating their children at home follow the precept that when something righteous is working for good, why change it? Since the basic family unit does such a good job on the child before school age, then common sense might say that it would continue to do a good job later on.

Why TEACH?

Christian home education using the Accelerated Christian Education curriculum, started in the UK in the 1980’s with a handful of committed, pioneering parents. The number of families has grown steadily over the years, and there are now over 650 families, representing more than 2,500 children, with particularly rapid growth in the last few years.

Apart from phone contact with the Christian Education Europe Ltd. office and annual conventions, home education for these families has tended to be a somewhat lonely task. A survey conducted between 1995 and 1996 revealed that, although convinced about Christian home education, many felt isolated and even discouraged by the lack of local support from like-minded Christians, and would appreciate regular contact, fellowship, support, assistance and encouragement from experienced Christian educators, who also home-educate their children.

To this end, Christian Education Europe Ltd decided to pursue the establishment of a distance learning support organisation. Having considered both the recent, and increasing

need for interaction with tertiary education establishments, and how such home-education support organisations function overseas, it was felt that an Academy would be the most appropriate structure.

Therefore, The European Academy for Christian Homeschooling upholds and supports the parents' role in the education of their children; under no circumstances will the academy presume to take over this responsibility.

Staff

The staff of Christian Education Europe Ltd are Christians who serve the Academy. Arthur Roderick is the Academy's Principal. Help also comes from professional educators associated with Christian Education as well as a number of experienced Regional Coordinators.

About the Accelerated Christian Education Curriculum

This academically excellent, individualised Christian education programme, has been used by thousands of schools and home educators all over the world for more than thirty years, enabling parents to monitor the standards and content of their children's education, from Preschool to tertiary education. No longer do children have to wait for the rest of the class to catch up before moving on to the next topic; no longer do children have to feel failures if they can't keep up, or have special educational needs. Accelerated Christian Education curriculum enables children of wide academic ability, to progress as quickly or as steadily as they are able. This Godly curriculum treats each child as God Himself treats us – as individuals.

This curriculum is Biblically based, and goes from Preschool (4+) through to university entrance and Adult Education, and is supplied within Europe by Christian Education Europe Ltd. It is central to the INTERNATIONAL CERTIFICATE OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION (incorporating the National Christian Schools Certificate) secondary education qualification (See UCAS Guide to UK Qualifications).

The prime method of learning is achieved by students working through booklets called PACEs (a **P**acket of **A**ccelerated **C**hristian **E**ducation) in various subjects, reading supplied texts, filling in blanks in questions, linking words with definitions, writing sentences and short essays, doing simple experiments, searching dictionaries, solving mathematical problems, using computers, watching videos and in many other ways.

There are frequent short tests throughout each PACE, leading up to the Self Test at the end of the PACE, where the student assesses his own understanding of the work. If he passes the Self Test, he will proceed to the PACE Test the following day. If passed, this will demonstrate mastery of the material. Progression to the next PACE is only permitted when mastery of the current work has clearly been demonstrated (**mastery learning**).

Starting

There are two routes to starting the curriculum, depending on whether the child is preschool age or whether the child has already done some schooling.

Preschool age

The child commences the Preschool programme with Ace and Christi, (two young cartoon children), or attempts the Reading Readiness Test to see if they are ready to start the reading programme, the ABCs of ACE.

Preschool Programme

Children from around the age of four and those testing below 80% should start the Preschool programme. This programme features a complete scope and sequence of concepts and skills needed to prepare children to be ready to read. Four complete and detailed manuals and sixty PACEs (2,000 pages) filled with animal pictures, activities, and full-colour picture stories guide parent and child through the programme and encourage a child to want to read. He will also learn social skills, the wonders of God's world, and the reality of God's love.

Learning To Read Programme - ABC's

Children who score 80% or above on the Reading Readiness Test are ready to learn to read. (Most children below the age of 5 are not physically ready to learn the skills involved in reading and may benefit more from the Preschool programme.)

This multi-sensory, phonetic learning-to-read programme is designed to prepare a child for the individualised instruction of the PACE curriculum. Within a period of 20 to 24 weeks, your child will learn to read by becoming acquainted with cartoon animals, songs, and stories, which help him to learn letter sounds, alphabet sequence, and word relationships. Physical and character development skills are built through poems, displays, and various physical activities. Some children benefit from taking longer than six months.

School age

Different curricula differ in content and in the timing of introduction of that content. Children who already have done some schooling on another curriculum may not have covered material in the same sequence as ACE. As ACE operates on the basis of mastery learning, not a timetable, it is important to find out exactly what a new pupil knows, so that any areas where ACE introduces material earlier can be identified. This is done by giving the child a Diagnostic Test, which will determine the general level at which he or she should commence, and also identify any gaps in his or her knowledge that need to be filled with 'gap PACEs'.

Core Curriculum

A child of six or over normally works 3 to 5 pages in the six core curriculum subjects each day. This Core Curriculum comprises:

- Mathematics
- English Grammar
- Literature and Creative Writing
- Science
- Social Studies (History and Geography)
- Word Building (Spelling)

An average child will complete approximately 70+ PACEs a year in total (about 12 –14 in each subject)

Each subject is approached from a sound Biblical standpoint, acknowledging in every area the authority of the Creator in His Creation.

The vital area of **Christian character training** is reinforced through the learning of Scripture, a character trait and cartoons. This character training forms a continuous thread running through the entire curriculum.

Electives and Expanded Curriculum

To supplement the basic Core Curriculum, Accelerated Christian Education offers a range of Expanded Curriculum and secondary level Electives.

• Expanded Curriculum

These are currently available for Year 2 to Year 4 children, and may be studied by children who have advanced well beyond their chronological age. These subjects, currently Animal Science and Bible Reading, are useful for broadening the child's learning base and preventing him or her advancing beyond their maturity level.

• Electives

These are chosen and studied from Year 8 and above and are required for the completion of the INTERNATIONAL CERTIFICATE OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION (incorporating the National Christian Schools Certificate). These Electives include:

- English Literature
- Old and New Testament Surveys, Church History and Life of Christ
- History of Civilisation
- Bible Study, Missions, Basic Christian Growth, Christian Counselling
- Typing
- Accounting, Business Studies, Pre-calculus
- French, Spanish, Greek, and many more languages
- Beginning and Advanced Art,
- Music, Speech, Health, Auto Mechanics

Audio/Visual Enhancement

Many of the core curriculum and elective subjects now use audio, video and computer enhancement, to complement the work completed in PACEs. Videos and DVDs are available for purchase, covering such subjects as Biology, Physics, Physical Science, Geometry and Algebra etc. contributing a stimulating added dimension.

The complete curriculum, from Preschool to University entrance, is detailed in the **Scope and Sequence**, which outlines the material covered in every PACE in every subject and is available for review or purchase. A summary of the Scope and Sequence is in an Appendix in the Home Education Handbook, which you receive when you join. The programme may be extended further by the use of other materials supplied by Christian Education Europe, details of which may be found in the Product Catalogue.

The International Certificate of Christian Education (ICCE)

What do you do once your child gets to senior school age? Do you have to go back to a secular curriculum and work towards a troubled GCSE or A level certificate??

Well, no. Now you have a Bible-based, Godly alternative in the INTERNATIONAL CERTIFICATE OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION (ICCE) - this incorporates the previous qualification, the National Christian Schools Certificate, or NCSC. This Christian secondary qualification is rapidly gaining acceptance with industries, businesses, colleges and universities, both here in the UK, and throughout the rest of the world. Young people registered with the ICCE, who have continued on with Accelerated Christian Education through their secondary years, may be awarded one of four levels of Certificate from Basic to Advanced.

Please note: pupils coming late to the Accelerated Christian Education programme, may be stretched to achieve a higher level certificate.

Further details on the ICCE may be obtained on request from TEACH, or direct from the ICCE office, both at Maranatha House.

Conferences and Conventions

Being a member of TEACH provides you with the opportunity to attend the Annual Home Educators' Conference, which is held at the end of June. This includes seminars for the parents, and activities for the children. It is a great opportunity for families to meet one another. We also hold day conferences across the country throughout the year. The day includes interesting sessions on Christian education, student and graduate testimonies and performances, a display of curriculum and other resources, plus it is a good opportunity to meet the team, ask questions and meet other home educating families.

The annual European Student Convention is open to all families to attend. Children over 12, who are on the TEACH programme can participate in over 135 competition events along with other students also using ACE from all over Europe. Participants are encouraged to use their gifts for God's glory. Although not mandatory, your children will benefit by preparing for and participating in Student Convention.

Training

Accelerated Christian Education material is individualised, the emphasis being placed on **learning** rather than *teaching*. A student works in each subject at a level of difficulty perfectly suited to his ability, and he does not need to fall into the trap of comparing himself with his peers.

Clearly, a conventional 'classroom' approach would be unable to cater for a wide range of learning levels, and this necessarily has led Accelerated Christian Education to develop a system to facilitate individualised learning on many different levels within one classroom (learning centre) or home situation.

Since this system is quite different to the more familiar approach, parents need to complete a course of training before starting home education using Accelerated Christian Education curriculum. The Home Education Training may be completed at home, requiring approximately 20 hours of study.

A comprehensive **Home Education Handbook**, covering just about all aspects of the curriculum and home education, is supplied to all families on enrolment.

The cost of this training is paid for when joining.

Actually seeing it

Over the years we have seen how valuable it is for prospective members to have an opportunity to discuss matters and see the curriculum before joining. Those wanting to join TEACH need to have an interview either here at Swindon or in another place. It is possible to have this interview with either TEACH staff or your Regional Coordinator.

Come and visit us

The TEACH Office, and Christian Education Europe's warehouse, is situated at Shrivenham about five miles east of Swindon. It is around 15 minutes from junction 15 of the M4 motorway. The nearest train and bus station is in Swindon, which is approximately 8.7 miles (14km) southwest of us. If you wish to examine the complete range of A.C.E. curriculum, computer software, Creation books and much more, or if you would like to talk further, regarding your embarking on Christian home education using our curriculum, please contact the office and arrange for a visit.



We look forward to meeting you, and discussing the benefits of enrolling with The European Academy for Christian Homeschooling, and using Accelerated Christian Education materials and methods with your children as you seek to give them a truly Biblical Christian Education.

WHAT TO DO NEXT

How to enrol

Once you have decided you would like to join TEACH, extract the central yellow forms, complete in full (including the Standing Order form if you wish to pay that way), and post to the address on page 1. Please enclose a copy of the training certificate if you have already finished the necessary training. As a Christian organization TEACH values knowing something of the spiritual background of our members and so we would like to know of the church you attend and how long you have been a Christian. Whenever possible, we try and

arrange for you to have an initial interview either with your local Regional Coordinator, or at the office in Swindon.

If your children have come from an A.C.E. school we would like a photocopy of their Supervisors' Progress Card and a reference from the school with the Enrolment Form.

Enrolment with TEACH entitles you to the following:

- UK Training for one or both parents.
- Initial Diagnostic Testing PACEs for all children in the same family.
- The purchase of Accelerated Christian Education curriculum.
- Curriculum advice & assistance with A.C.E. programme.
- Access to ABCs & Preschool Kits for hire
- Telephone/Email support
- Regular updates
- Assistance from experienced home educators and TEACH staff.
- Consultations as needed.
- Regular Regional Seminars.
- Annual Home Educators' Conference and European Student Convention.
- Assistance dealing with Local Education Authorities.
- Access to enrolment on the INTERNATIONAL CERTIFICATE OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION programme when Level 8 is reached.

When to enrol

Students may enrol at any time or level. One of the great advantages of Home Education is the flexibility it allows. You do not have to follow the state school term pattern although the law requires the education to be “efficient, **full-time** education ...” Normal progress needs between 36 and 39 weeks a year (It keeps the authorities happy as well).

Your application will be processed as soon as possible, but realistically it will be between 6-8 weeks before you actually have the curriculum and are ready to start. September starts are popular, making this time of year very busy, so plan ahead to avoid disappointment.

The sequence of events after receiving the application form is as follows:

- ◆ Arrange an interview if you have not had one already.
- ◆ Parent training will be sent to you, along with your account number and any other information.
- ◆ After the training is returned, you will receive a certificate along with any Diagnostic tests your children may require (NB reaching this stage involves a £50 non refundable element of the fee).
- ◆ When the Diagnostic tests are returned we will send you the Curriculum Prescription for your records as well as the first small order to ensure you have all that is required. By this time we hope you will have had an assistance interview, and your order details are now sent to the order department, who will send you a Master Order Form and a Price List for you to make the next order yourself.

Finances

Initial Training and Diagnostic Training

As from July 2006, we no longer charge an enrolment fee to join TEACH! We only charge for the purchase of training and diagnostic testing. This can vary from £25-£40 with postage depending on the number and ages of your children and will include a Home Education Handbook. No training can be dispatched until membership has been set up (see below).

The Academy funds its services by charging an Annual Membership Fee.

Annual Membership Fee

The Annual Membership Fee can be paid either annually, or monthly. Families with only one child on the programme receive a discount.

If the fee is paid **annually** it is **£144 for two or more children and £132 for families with only one child, and is payable at the time of enrolment and every 12 months thereafter.** This can be paid by Standing Order.

If the fee is paid **monthly** by **Standing Order**, it is **£13-50** per month (**£162 for the year**) for two or more children on the programme and **£12-50** a month (**£150-00 a year**) for those with only one child on the programme. The surcharge is to cover the additional administration costs involved. In the case of monthly Standing Order, the start date is three months after enrolment. **Payment for two months' membership in advance is required upon enrolment (non-refundable).**

A Standing Order Form is enclosed with this schedule which should be completed and returned with the Enrolment Form if you wish to pay by Standing Order monthly or annually.

NOTE: No curriculum can be purchased until the Standing Order Form is received, or the lump sum for the cost of Membership.

Associate Membership Fees

Associate Membership is sometimes available to missionary families who spend more than six months living overseas, or those living in Mainland Europe. The Annual Membership Fee is **£72**.

CHEQUES should be made out to: 'Christian Education Europe Ltd.'

PLEASE NOTE:

THE ABOVE SCHEDULE OF FEES DOES NOT INCLUDE CURRICULUM COSTS. Depending on the age of the student, these may be around £200-£300 a year per child, but are to be paid as and when the curriculum is required.

Example breakdown of costs

Initial Training and Diagnostics:	£25 - £45 per family
Annual Membership fee:	£132.00 - £144.00 per family per year (or £12.50/£13.50 per month standing order)
Curriculum:	£200.00 – £350.00 per child per year

April 2009 5% increase on membership fees.

Here are some examples of a typical annual expenditure for curriculum:

Please note that these are only estimates based on the recommended pace of learning. Remember that ACE is an individualised curriculum and some children may do more or less PACEs in a year. Kits, score keys and reading books can be reused for other children in the family. Postage is not included in these figures. TEACH discount is included where applicable. (Based on 2008 prices)

Preschool (4-5 year olds)

Kit Hire (1 year):	£96.00 (can be purchased for £337.68)
60 PACEs @ £2.02	<u>£121.20</u>
	£217.20

ABCs with ACE and Christi

Kit Hire (6 months):	£69.00
43 PACEs including Bible Reading,	<u>£99.76</u>
Maths, Animal Science, Word Building,	£168.76
and Advanced Lessons @ £2.32	

OR

Kit purchased (incl. Maths and Word Building):	£125.32
28 PACEs including Bible Reading,	<u>£64.96</u>
Animal Science and Advanced lessons @ £2.32	£190.28

Level one (1001-1012)

Based on one level in a year:

36 PACEs including English, Social Studies,	
Science & 9 Maths PACEs	£104.40
45 Score Keys @ £2.32 (NB* OPTIONAL)	£104.40 Recommended

Levels two (1013-1024)

Based on one level in a year:

12 PACEs @ 2.32 for six subjects:	£167.04
12 Score Keys @ £2.32 for six subjects:	£167.04 Recommended
(Animal Science & Bible Reading now optional)	
2 reading books and misc. items:	£15.96

Levels three (1025-1036)

Based on one level in a year:

12 PACEs @ 2.32 for six subjects:	£167.04
12 Score Keys @ £2.32 for six subjects:	£167.04
6 reading books and misc. items:	<u>£44.59</u>
	£378.67

Levels four (1037-1048)

Based on one level in a year:

12 PACEs @ 2.32 for six subjects:	£167.04
4 Score Keys @ £2.32 for six subjects:	£55.68
6 reading books and misc. items:	<u>£44.59</u>
	£267.31

Levels five to seven (1049-1084)

Based on one level in a year:

12 PACEs @ 2.61 for six subjects:	£187.92
4 Score Keys @ £2.61 for six subjects:	£62.64
6 reading books and misc. items:	<u>£44.59</u>
	£295.15

A student on ICCE (1085+)

General Certificate* (2-3 years to complete):	roughly £310.00 per year based on 2.5 years
Intermediate Certificate*:	roughly £330.00 to complete the certificate
Advanced Certificate*:	roughly £330.00 to complete the certificate

*These examples are based on PACEs and Keys for the required modules and three typical ACE full credits from the options list. The estimate may vary depending on the options chosen.

Please note that the General Certificate can take TWO or THREE years to complete.

The above estimate does not include optional supplementary videos (for Biology and Algebra) that can be purchased from CEE. **There is also a registration fee for the ICCE.**

Initial Order

To speed up your Initial Order, TEACH staff will make out your first order when enrolment is completed and the Diagnostic Tests (if any) are returned.. We include all the charts and stickers necessary and normally the first three PACEs in each subject for your children. You can pay for the order by Credit/Debit card or you can ask us to ring you to tell you the cost of the order. You can then send in a cheque. As a rough guide you may find the first order to be around £85 for one child plus £65 for subsequent children. Please let us know of your preferred method of payment by sending a covering letter when you return the Diagnostic Tests.

If you intend to hire or buy a Preschool Kit or ABC's Kit, please indicate in a letter and enclose payment or credit card details.

A Final Word

Psalm 1:1-3

Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.

But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.

And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

Colossians 2:8

Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge (**Proverbs 1:7**) and wisdom (**Psalm 111:10**).

Ephesians 6:4

And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

Deuteronomy 6:6-7

And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart:

And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.