

# ONLINE FORUM GUIDELINES

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## PLEASE REMEMBER OUR MISSION:

Homeschoolers East's mission is to bring together home-school families of diverse backgrounds through educational opportunities that develop the individual's academic and spiritual potential, family partnership and unity. These goals are achieved through activities such as field trips, social events, service projects and cooperative classes. These cooperative classes, provided by the combined efforts of Member volunteers, are not designed to take the place of the child's home education, but to foster enriching opportunities in addition to what is being taught at home.

## WHEN POSTING:

Each member is encouraged to post regularly to help us keep in contact with and to support one another. We want to hear what you have to say! Please ask questions and discuss your experiences with homeschooling and parenting.

- Please be polite and respectful to other members.
- Please don't criticize others when you disagree with their ideas, beliefs, thoughts or choices. We are all constantly in the learning mode. "Flaming" is not allowed.
- Feel free to give feedback on a situation or homeschooling approach when asked. With tactfulness, consideration and kindness we can learn so much from each other.
- Feel free to post events, activities, resources and anything you think others HSE members might be interested in.
- Make sure the "Subject Heading" and Category accurately reflect the content of your message. This is extremely helpful when people are scanning their inbox for relevant messages.
- If unsure which Category to use for your Forum message, take time to read the description next to each Category option.

## SUGGESTIONS AND/OR COMPLAINTS:

**Consultation over the Forum is not allowed.** The Forum is not the proper place to air grievances about another member or the group in general. Grievances should be directed to the Steering Committee via the Secretary or other appropriate Steering Committee (SC) Member. That being said, suggestions or topics for Consultation may be respectfully posted to the Action Items Category or submitted directly to the Secretary. If at any time, Forum discussions are recognized as being inappropriate for the venue of the Forum, the SC reserves the right to redirect and/or halt Forum conversations in order to prevent those discussions from becoming heated or argumentative.

## GOING ON VACATION:

If you wish to modify your emails while you are gone, you can go to the group website and click on "Edit My Profile". There, you can modify your Weekly Email Update and Forum Emails. When you return from vacation, you can change your settings back to what they were before.