

# My Experiences Home Schooling

By Charlotte Chadwick

Home schooling is a great option for skaters who are serious about their sport. It allows skaters to skate the later, less crowded sessions while still enabling them to excel in their schoolwork.

Home schooling can have its ups and downs, such as the always present distractions at home, like the phone ringing or the dog barking, it is great for those who are diligent, hardworking, and just need some extra time to dedicate toward their passions.

I started home schooling in 9<sup>th</sup> grade mostly in order to skate more and at later times, but also because I just wasn't interested in the high schools I had to choose from. Now I am in 11<sup>th</sup> grade and am very happy about my decision to home school, although I do miss the friends I left behind.

In the three years I have been home schooling I have had mostly good experiences, but some not so great ones as well. In my first year of home schooling I learned home school can be as hard as, if not harder than, public schools. This is because I want to leave all my options open for what college I am going to attend, so I have decided to follow the more challenging UC bound curriculum.

I am given four weeks worth of work at a time and I am responsible for pacing myself and completing the work on time. Even though I commit a lot of my time to my school work, my home schooling allows some flexibility for my coaches when scheduling me and their other students.

Through home schooling I have even been able to add a weekly private ballet

lesson to my schedule which has helped improve my artistry in my skating.

Although I home schooled through another charter school for my first year and a half, I am now at The Learning Choice Academy. It was actually Brett Ryan and his mother Wendy, who directed me to this home school.

**The school is great and there is an office right near the rink, so it is a lot easier to meet with my Educational Partner (An EP is a credentialed teacher who oversees all my work), and helps me stay connected to what is happening at the school. I have a wonderful EP who is very laid back and supportive.**

This year I decided to take a physics class that is held once a week at the office near the rink in order to get to know other high school students. Even though I have some friends at my school, I mostly rely on skating as my main social life because I don't see the friends I have at school very often.

Since I only have one more year of high school I am planning to continue home schooling next year. After that I am planning to go to Point Loma Nazarene, if I get accepted, and major in nursing. Although this is my plan, I have not really had enough experience in the medical field to know if nursing is the right career for me.

I do feel home school is helping me to prepare for college because I am accountable for getting my work done on my own. Also I am responsible for dividing up my school work and staying on top of all my assignments, just like I will be in college.

**Overall, home schooling has been a wonderful way for me to be able to balance my skating and my school work. I am able to take advantage of the later freestyles and I don't have to worry about missing school on the day of a competition or test.**

I am receiving a great education and am continuing to get good grades. I believe that home schooling has helped me to balance my skating and school work and in doing so I have the time and energy to excel in both.



**Charlotte Chadwick**