



Microschool Models and Startup Tips

Hybrid Learning Models

What Is a Microschool?

Microschools are reimagined learning spaces that prioritize community, flexibility, and personalized education. Typically serving 6–15 students, they operate in nontraditional settings such as homes, libraries, or community centers.

Key Features:

- Mixed-age classrooms
- Combination of parent involvement and teacher facilitation
- Emphasis on project-based and self-directed learning
- Flexible schedules tailored to learners' needs

Popular Microschool Models

Acton Academy

- Learner-driven community with studios instead of classrooms
- Focus on curiosity, independence, and real-world skills
- Blended learning with online tools and in-person mentorship

Prenda Microschools

- Hosted in homes by "guides" (not certified teachers)
- Curriculum includes core academics, creativity, and collaboration
- Backed by technology and community support

Wildflower Schools

- Montessori-inspired microschools run by teacher-leaders
- Designed to be small, nimble, and locally embedded

Startup Tips for Launching a Microschool

Step 1: Define Your Vision

- What ages or grades will you serve?
- Focus: STEM, arts-based, classical, or interest-led?
- Philosophy of education?

🏠 Step 2: Choose a Space

- Home, local church, coworking space, or community center
- Ensure it's safe, accessible, and inspiring

📚 Step 3: Build a Curriculum Framework

- Use tools like <u>Blossom & Root</u>, <u>Build Your Library</u>, or <u>Oak Meadow</u>
- Supplement with online platforms like <u>Khan Academy</u> or <u>Outschool</u>

Step 4: Recruit Families and Students

- Host info sessions and open houses
- Use platforms like Facebook, local homeschool groups, or your personal network

Step 5: Handle the Logistics

- Decide if you'll register as a homeschool co-op, learning pod, or private school
- Address liability insurance, local regulations, and tuition pricing
- Keep your structure simple and compliant

Why Families Choose Microschools

- Combine structure with flexibility
- Offer more 1:1 attention
- Encourage leadership and collaboration
- Support whole-child learning
- Foster a sense of belonging and community

Help us improve our resources — <u>leave feedback!</u>

