

HINTS AND TIPS TO ASSIST WITH HOME LEARNING

Setting up learning routines and expectations at home.

It is important for parents / carers to manage their children's home learning the best way they can. Remember that learning from home is about supporting children to maintain a level of interaction and engagement in Reading, Writing and Maths and to work with them during their journey of discovering new learnings and skills. Learning from home is not about trying to achieve everything that is done at school each day and in the way we do it. You all have home life and family expectations which need to continue for you in the best way manageable. All we ask is that you all do what you can in a routine which suits you and your family.



Below are some tips to assist:

Set up a learning environment:

- Provide a quiet and comfortable space in which to learn. Ensure this is not the same place used for play so children are clear when it is learning time.
- Create a space where your child does not feel isolated and you are able to easily supervise the learning and online activity e.g. lounge or dining room.
- Ensure the space has quiet times to enable concentration.
- Ensure internet connectivity is suitable from the work space.
- Provide a space where your child can and is allowed to use lots of equipment like glue, textas, pencils, playdough.

Set up a routine and expectations:

- Check in with your child in the morning and during the afternoon to ensure they are set up and ready to go and to monitor their progress.
- Work through the teachers' instructions to make sure your child knows what to do.
- Know your children's learning goals.
- Help your child organise their learning activities and priorities for the week /day.
 - How will learning time be used?
 - Which tasks will be covered at which times?
 - When will break times be and for how long?
 - How long does each task need?
 - What support is needed?
- Ensure they maintain a healthy routine throughout the day:
 - Regular exercise breaks (Walking, using exercise DVDs and apps)
 - Eating healthy snacks and lunch at similar times to school routine if possible.
 - Drinking water throughout the day

Supervise and support your children with their learning:

- Monitor your child throughout their learning sessions to ensure they are on task and support them if needed.
- Be present at times of telephone or video chats with teachers and other staff.
- Be available as much as you can around your busy schedule within your home.
- Ensure children know you are aware of their activity without hovering over them continuously. Children need to maintain ownership of and responsibility for their learning.

Minimise Distractions:

- Keep children's tasks manageable
- Avoid having them focus on too many things at once.
- Keep interruptions to a minimum as much as is possible. Keep in mind their classroom is not always silent.
- Know how your child works best and provide that climate. For example if they work well with music play it and if they get distracted with it then don't have it playing during their learning time. Use the music during their breaks.

Praise children's efforts:

- Continuously encourage your child to try their best and praise them for their efforts.
- Praise often the behaviours, efforts and work standard you wish to see more of.
- Remember not to be too hard on your children or yourself. Remote learning is new and challenging experience for everyone but we can make it enjoyable and successful.

Stay Positive:

- Share your eagerness to work with your child around their learning.
- Set up schedules together around your children's learning and your own jobs that still have to get done and prioritise work and play times together.
- Refer to these times as learning and play. (Avoid only referring to play as fun as we need children to see learning as being fun also.)

Seek Help When Needed:

- Be sure you and your children seek support and help when needed from their teachers or other staff members.
- Please feel free to contact leadership or admin staff at school if you need assistance with anything.
- We are all in this together and happy to assist.

SIMPLE ACTIVITIES TO FOCUS ON AND KEEP LEARNING HAPPENING WHEN THINGS GET TOUGH

READ: Show your children that you are excited about books. Read to and with your children and have them read to you. Talk about the books you have read.

TALK: Involve your children in conversation. Ask them questions and let them ask you questions.

PLAY: Play games for enjoyment, for problem – solving , for learning and for exercise.

COOK: Read recipes, plan, shop and cook together. (Reading and measuring)

CREATE: Get crafty or construct together: Design, collect materials (could be from nature e.g leaves, twigs, flowers etc) Create and take photos.
Construct things from Lego or other construction kits.

WRITE: Write about all of the above and any other experiences.



- **More tips and hints can be found at the following Victorian Department of Education Website**

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/parents/learning/Pages/home-learning-supporting-child.aspx>

- **Link to Victorian Department of Education Parent Fact Sheet**

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/documents/parents/learning-from-home-parent-fact-sheet.docx>

- **Link to Victorian Department of Education Parent Fact Sheet in different languages**

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/parents/learning/Pages/home-learning-translated-advice.aspx>

- **The Department of Education and Training's Learning from Home website also provides information and resources for parents and carers:**

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/parents/learning/Pages/home-learning.aspx>