

HOME LEARNING FOR STUDENTS IN THE EVENT OF SCHOOL CLOSURES



Dear Parents/Guardians,

LEARNING BOOK

All students will receive a learning book. The teachers have created a matrix of learning for each of the following areas;

- Reading
- Writing
- Maths
- Art
- Performing Arts
- Spanish

Other learning tasks will be provided using online programs - **Mathletics** and **Literacy Planet**. Note: Students already have their own login details.

In the event of prolonged school closure after the school holidays we will be using an online learning platform called SEE SAW. You will find passwords and information about this platform in your child's learning book for future reference. More information and support will be provided on the school's website when we commence remote learning.

How to support your child

You can provide support for your child by:

- establishing routines and expectations
- providing a space for your child to work in
- providing a level of supervision appropriate to your child's stage of development
- monitoring communications from teachers
- checking in with your child often to help them manage and pace their work
- monitoring how much time your child is spending online

Student responsibilities during remote learning

You should adjust these responsibilities according to the age and stage of your child.

Student responsibilities include:

- monitoring digital platforms and communication often to check for announcements and feedback from teachers
- completing tasks with integrity and academic honesty and doing their best work
- doing their best to meet timelines, commitments and due dates
- communicating proactively with their teachers
- collaborating and supporting their classmates in their learning
- abiding by their school's behaviour guidelines

Setting up a learning environment

We recognise that every home is different. Where possible, it's important to provide a quiet and comfortable learning space. Your child may have a regular place for doing homework under normal circumstances, but this space may not be suitable for an extended period of time. For some families, having all children around one table may work best.

Where possible, extended learning should take place in a space your family shares. For example, a lounge room or dining room. These spaces are preferable over a bedroom, where:

- it can be isolating for your child
- supervision can be more challenging

It should be a place:

- that can be quiet at times
- that has a strong internet signal, if possible
- where you or another adult is present and monitoring your children's learning

Establishing routines and expectations

Start and end each day with a check-in.

Encourage regular exercise breaks. Options could include exercise DVDs, apps, dancing, floor exercises, yoga, walking around the garden or using home exercise equipment. For example, a stationary bicycle, basketball hoop, or other sporting equipment.

Encourage healthy eating habits and drinking enough water.

Keep normal bedtime routines for younger children. Expect the same from your older primary and high school aged children too.

It's important that you set these kinds of expectations as soon as learning from home begins, rather than several days later if you notice a child is struggling without a routine.

Communicating with your child

We encourage you to start and finish each day with a simple check-in. These check-ins can be a regular part of each day.

In the morning, ask:

What are you learning today?

What are your learning targets or goals?

How will you be spending your time?

What resources do you need? What support do you need?

In the afternoon, ask:

What did you learn today?

What was challenging? You could come up with a strategy to deal with the same problem if it comes up again.

Consider three things that went well today. Why were they good?

Are you ok? Do you need to ask your teacher for something? Do you need help with something to make tomorrow more successful?

Regular check-ins throughout the day may also be appropriate. This depends on your child's needs.

These questions allow your child to:

process the instructions they get from their teachers

help them organise themselves and set priorities.

Advice for parents of children with additional needs

[How you can support your child with additional needs at home](#) – this resource helps parents support their child's learning at home.

[Understanding learning difficulties for parents: a practical guide](#) – this guide provides parents with practical advice about learning difficulties. This includes the evidence base supporting particular intervention programs and a [recommended apps](#) list for students with learning difficulties.

It's important you keep a balanced approach to home learning. Time spent using digital devices for learning should be broken up with physical exercise and offline learning tasks often.

For children under six years old, it's recommended that a couple of 30 minutes sessions per day involve screens. For students over six, hourly exercise breaks are suggested.

It's also important that during this period of remote learning we maintain safe and responsible use of information and communication technologies. This includes:

- the appropriate use of digital platforms, privacy and information protection
- respectful online communication

For further information use the following link:

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/teachers/teachingresources/Pages/coronavirus-home-learning.aspx>