

A guide to supporting your young person with home learning



When Should Homework Be Done?

It is a good idea to establish a routine:

- ✓ Use a personal planner/ your Google Classroom calendar to get organised
- ✓ Choose a regular time each day
- ✓ Several short sessions are better than a last minute marathon
- ✓ Pupils should make sure that they keep up to date with their home learning, but leave time for other activities

How Can You Help?

The most important thing you can do is to show an interest in your child's work:

- ✓ Talk to them about their school work
- ✓ Ask if they have any home learning tasks to complete
- ✓ Look at their work and check presentation, handwriting and spelling
- ✓ Check homework deadlines and help them organise and prioritise homework around extracurricular activities

Help them to find a good place to work

- ✓ A well-lit area in a warm part of the house
- ✓ A flat surface, preferably a desk or table
- ✓ Avoid distractions - TV, pets, wee brothers etc.
- ✓ Encourage attendance at Learn with a Latte or study sessions, which allows learners to get support from teachers
- ✓ Some parents worry when they see their children trying to do homework with earphones clamped to their heads. There is some research, however, which suggests that music can help with concentration.

What if?

You don't know how to help your child with a piece of homework which is due in the next day?

- ✓ Encourage your child to contact friends
- ✓ Send a wee note to the class teacher with your child explaining the difficulty
- ✓ Don't stay up till midnight worrying about it

What if?

The homework is presenting problems but is due to be returned right away?

- ✓ Encourage your child to discuss it with friends
- ✓ Encourage him or her to ask the teacher about it

What if?

Your child claims never to get homework or to get very little homework? Most subjects give regular homework so it is a good idea to:

- ✓ Discuss this with your child
- ✓ Check informally with other parents
- ✓ Contact their Guidance Teacher

What if?

Homework seems to be taking your child longer than she/he thinks it should?

- ✓ Explain that there are different ways of studying and that some of us do need to take more time
- ✓ support your child with motivation and encouragement
- ✓ if the child is anxious and you think that he or she may be overloaded, contact their Guidance Teacher