

Points to note:

This is not home schooling. This is an unprecedented emergency situation impacting the whole world. Let's keep perspective. Home schooling is a choice, where you considered, you plan for it and you are your child's school teacher in whatever form you choose. This is remote learning. We are learning as we go, and we are operating with the best of intentions.

It is absolutely not possible to facilitate remote learning with a primary aged child and work from home at the same time. You can certainly have activities where your child learns, but your focus is your job. As much as possible, let us take care of the learning.

You are, and always have been, your child's primary educator. If you decide that your child isn't going to engage with anything sent home and is going to spend the entire period playing in the dirt, or baking, or watching TV, that is your choice. That is your right. There is nothing to stress or feel guilty about. However, know that us reporting your child's progress mid-year will be difficult. We are ok with that, if you are.

So, a few FAQs:

- You keep sending home links and emails with more work. Do I have to do it all?

Please assess the learning that is being offered and pace your child's learning in line with your family life. If only some gets done, that's better than none! This is largely self-paced and shouldn't become a battle for you and your family. There will be some 'essential tasks' required for assessment. If these could be done we will be better able to report your child's progress.

- I am worried that my child's learning needs won't be catered for.

Children learn at different rates. In the class there's a wide range of levels in all subjects, there's different paces and there are many kids working on differentiated level of work. We will be doing our best to accommodate every child, but you can help by adjusting expectation and time to complete activities.

Your child will not fall behind. This is all revision and reminder work. If kids could learn new concepts without specific teaching, we wouldn't need teachers. They will cover all of this again, multiple times.

- I'm not doing any work with my kids. All they're doing is Lego, cooking and playing outside and exploring areas of their own interest. Is that a problem?

All of this is learning. Very valuable learning. Give yourself and them a break. Keep inspiring their curiosity and encourage them to share it with their teacher.

- How can I get three different lots of work done with 3 different kids, of different ages?

You can't, stop trying. We will be modifying all expectations for our children to only have approximately an hour of work a day.

- What's the bare minimum you'd expect?

That children still feel connected to school, their teachers and their peers. This is through participating in whatever way they can. If there is an assessment piece, focus on that. It helps the teachers plan for learning.

You are doing enough. You are loving your kids and supporting them through a difficult time. Look after yourself. Minimising stress is absolutely vital in a time like this for mental health. Don't let this be something that stresses you.

- Who should I contact if I am stuck?

For all things relating to your child's learning, please contact your child's teacher through email, compass or seesaw. Please respect their time by limiting communication to regular school hours.

For wider education issues and school procedures and matters, please contact Emma or Amelia through the school's email address.

- How will my child learn online?

Your child's teacher will be available for approximately an hour a day from Tuesday to Friday to answer questions regarding the learning for your child. Mondays will be staff meeting days and teacher planning days. In 3-6 classes, teachers would expect to hear directly from the children. In P-2 classes, we are happy to hear from either children or parents. Learning tasks will be posted each week. New learning will be provided as necessary and weekly.

- How will my child know how their learning is progressing?

Teachers will assess all work handed in. This will take different forms for different tasks. Not all teachers will do this the same way. However, all students will have feedback provided on their learning journey fortnightly.

- What if you haven't answered my question?

We will be providing updates and highlights regularly. You can also contact us via the school email. Until Friday, you can call the school too! We want you to feel supported and connected.