



St Francis de Sales Catholic Primary School  
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# COVID-19 Home Learning Program Information Sheet

## Implementation of SFdS Home Learning Program

The implementation of remote home learning will provide many challenges for students, families and teachers. I am sure that many of you will have concerns about your child's learning in these circumstances. Please take some reassurance in knowing that all of the children in Australia, and all around the world for that matter, are facing the same disadvantage when it comes to their schooling at the moment.

The school has been working really hard on our remote home learning program and teachers have spent much of their school holidays preparing and getting this ready. The school will continually be reflecting on how we are working to improve the experiences for students and families. We are all learning and developing our skills as we go and I am sure that what remote learning looks like now will evolve over the course of Term 2.

I can assure you, the teachers at SFdS are passionate about what they do and I know that they will continue to work really hard to ensure that they are providing the best educational experiences possible in these challenging circumstances. It is hurting our teachers that they will not be able to work face-to-face with your children each and every day to provide the educational program that we are accustomed to. It is very important to remember, that all staff at SFdS are here to help and guide you along the way, you are not alone, we are all in this together.

Please do not hesitate to contact your child's classroom teacher or any other member of staff if you need any clarification or support. The school understands that remote learning will provide extra pressure on families during this time. Whilst we are providing structure as a guide for you to follow, we appreciate that every family has different circumstances and this suggested guide, is simply a guide and needs to be tailored as best suits your family.

I have attached a list of questions and answers that I feel might be valuable for our families to reflect upon. Communication throughout this time will be really important in ensuring that remote learning works as smoothly as possible as we travel this journey together.

Please remember none of us have ever done this before and we're all learning as we are going along and are having to adjust things as circumstances change. Some things will work well right from the start, and some things won't. We will get better at things as we travel this new journey together.

Kind regards

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# COVID-19 Home Learning Program Questions and Answers

How will I be able to keep up to date with the Remote Home Learning Program?

The Remote Home Learning Program will be available on-line in 3 separate ways:

1. A weekly email sent at the start of every week.
2. Via the 'SkoolBag App' under the COVID-19 Home Learning Program tab.
3. Important key information can also be found on the school website (under 'Curriculum and Home Learning' tab).

Each parent who has provided the school with a current primary email address will receive an email from their child's classroom teacher with a copy of each week's remote learning schedule.

What and how will the Remote Home Learning Program look like?

Students from each classroom will be given a clear structured timetable to follow each week. This will be broken down into timed learning blocks throughout the day.

Students will be provided with learning and teaching materials, tasks and activities for Literacy, Numeracy and other curriculum areas each day. Most of these materials will be provided on-line but as the term progresses we will devise ways to also provide hard copy resources such as books etc.

When will the home learning schedule be updated?

The remote home learning schedule will be made available before the week commences. This will also be available on the SkoolBag App under the tab 'COVID-19 Home Learning Program'.

Classroom teachers will also regularly check in with their class via email and short videos to keep them connected.

Home learning packs will complement the learning which has been made available on-line. These physical packs will be replenished from time to time when required. This will require families to come to school to collect these.



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Will Teaching Staff be available during school hours?

Classroom Teachers will be on-line throughout the day to touch base with the children on-line via email to assist in clarifying any queries or problems.

Classroom teachers will also regularly check in with their class via email and short videos to keep them connected.

What recommended guidelines does the Education Department of Victoria and the CECV recommend?

Consistent with the Education Department of Victoria, the CECV recommends the following daily minimum guidelines for schools to follow:

For students in Grade Prep to Grade 2, schools should provide learning programs that include the following:

- literacy activities that take a total of about 45–60 minutes
- numeracy activities of around 30–45 minutes
- additional learning areas, play-based learning and physical activity of about 30–45 minutes

For students in Grades 3 to 6 schools should provide learning programs allocated as follows:

- literacy: 45–60 minutes
- numeracy: 30–45 minutes
- physical activities: 30 minutes
- additional curriculum areas: 90 minutes.

Who can I contact if I experience troubleshooting with technology?

If you experience any difficulties with technology relating to our home learning program, please email your child's Classroom Teacher.



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### How Can I Support my Child with Remote Learning?

Please don't worry if you are finding it difficult getting to help your children with their school work. We at school are all family people too and we understand that family life has its own challenges and distractions and other priorities crop up. Its Ok if things don't get done sometimes or if your child is unable to complete the set work for some reason.

Don't worry if you feel that you don't know how to help your child with their school work. Encouragement and belief in them is what's most important. Never underestimate yourself as their greatest teacher. Also remember that the children are pretty savvy when it comes to using technology.

I would like everyone to remember the core curriculum in primary school education is English and Mathematics.

**One of the most important things you can do is to encourage your child to read every day.**

It is also important to be aware of the incidental opportunities for learning that happen all the time, this might be as simple as helping to follow a recipe and talking about some of the mathematical concepts involved.