



COVID-19 Term 3 Remote Home Learning Program

Our home learning program allows for flexible, self-paced, learning and will be enhanced by multimedia, as well as access to a wide range of on-line resources and activities.

Information | 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 via:

- the [Remote Home Learning Portal](#). The Remote Home Learning Portal is designed to support families with Remote Home Learning. The portal site will be updated every Friday afternoon with the next week's learning tasks.
- the 'SkoolBag App' under the COVID-19 Home Learning Program tab.
- emails from your child's Classroom Teacher. Each parent who has provided the school with a current primary email address will receive every Friday afternoon an email from their child's classroom teacher with a copy of each week's overview.
- the school website. Important key information will be available on the school website (under the 'Curriculum and Home Learning' tab).

Where can I find the Guide to Remote Home Learning?

A Remote Home Learning Guide will be emailed to every family.

In addition to this, the Remote Home Learning Guide will be available for easy access on the Remote Home Learning Portal, the SkoolBag App and the School's Website.

The Remote Home Learning Guide will include the following:

- Wellbeing handout
- Information | Questions and Answers on Remote Home Learning
- SFdS Home Learning Program Policy
- SFdS Digital Technology User Agreement
- Google Meet Expectations and Guide to Google Meet
- Guide to a suggested 'Daily Routine Schedule'
- Positive Behaviour for Remote Learning Handbook
- RCH Education Institute Online Education Resources
- SFdS Contact Directory



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

Students from each classroom will be given a clear structured timetable and/or overview 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 'additional 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.

What will onsite learning look like for those students eligible to attend?

The learning program delivered on-site will be the same as the learning program delivered to students undertaking remote learning.

Students learning on-site will be supervised by school staff on-site but follow the teaching and learning program provided by their classroom teacher.

What might the limitations for my child who is eligible to attend onsite learning be?

The school is offering onsite supervision for children who fit a very specific criteria determined by the Victorian Government and by The Catholic Education Commission of Victoria (CECV). The school has been given clear and strict instructions around what this supervision looks like in order to keep both staff and students safe at school during the COVID-19 pandemic that we are enduring.

It is important to understand that with strict physical social distancing measures that are in place to keep students and teachers safe, means that teachers cannot teach or support students in the same way they would in normal circumstances. Further, these physical restrictions prevent staff from being able to offer the level of support that would be offered by families at home where physical distancing measures are not required.

The assumption that children are "better off" onsite during remote learning is arguably incorrect as for the vast majority of children this is not true as the teachers and staff onsite are restricted by the measures and protocols in place to keep us safe. As these restrictions are designed to keep us safe they also restrict our ability to support the learning of onsite students.

The school is committed to providing a safe environment for both children and staff. This is and remains our number one priority. We will continue to offer our onsite supervision program for those children who require it, however I ask families to understand the limitations of supervision as opposed to teaching in our current situation.



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 Prep to Grade 2, SFdS will provide learning programs allocated as follows:

- Literacy activities that take a total of about 45-60 minutes
- Numeracy activities of about 30- 45 minutes
- Additional curriculum areas: Up to 30-45 minutes.

Please note that 'Additional curriculum areas' includes, Inquiry, Education in Faith, Positive Behaviour for Learning, Google Meets, personal reading, mindfulness, prayer, artistic endeavours etc.

For students in Grades 3 to 6 SFdS will provide learning programs allocated as follows:

- Literacy: 45-60 minutes
- Numeracy: 30-45 minutes
- Physical activities: 30 minutes
- Additional curriculum areas: Up to 90 minutes

Please note that 'Additional curriculum areas' includes, Inquiry, Education in Faith, Positive Behaviour for Learning, Google Meets, personal reading, mindfulness, prayer, artistic endeavours etc.

Will the School have a Working Well Day?

Yes, every Friday the school will have a 'Feel Good Friday' day.

On 'Feel Good Friday', students will use this day to:

- participate in a whole class google meet
- focus on completing any unfinished work that was set for the week;
- submitting any outstanding work to their Classroom Teacher;
- checking in with their Classroom Teacher;
- completing any additional curriculum activities as set by the Classroom Teacher.

It is hoped that 'Feel Good Friday' will be less demanding on families and will allow students to regain some balance with important curriculum areas.

Feel Good Friday replaces our Term 2 Working Well Wednesday.



When will the weekly overview be provided?

A weekly overview of the set tasks for the week ahead will be made available every Friday afternoon on the remote home learning portal and also on the SkoolBag App under the tab 'COVID-19 Home Learning Program'.

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

Is it compulsory for work pieces to be submitted to the Classroom Teacher?

Yes, as part of the curriculum guidelines and assessment process, Grade Prep – Grade 6, students will be expected from time to time to submit assessment pieces to their classroom teacher. The classroom teacher will let the students know in a timely manner of when assessment pieces are due to be submitted.

Will feedback be provided to students on their work?

Yes, feedback will be provided to students on at least two pieces of work each week. This may be either verbal or by email and/or written comments on work samples.

Will Teaching Staff be available during school hours?

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

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



I have emailed my child's Classroom Teacher but I am yet to receive a response?

It is important to keep in mind, there may be delays in your child's Classroom Teacher responding to emails due to:

- teaching;
- being in a student google meet;
- responding to student emails;
- supervising onsite learning;
- being in a planning meeting;
- a teacher not working on the day an email was sent due to a job share arrangement.

In accordance with our Parent Code of Conduct Policy, during School Hours, our Teaching Staff are unlikely to respond to emails or telephone calls immediately. The school accepts that responses within 2 working days is acceptable and responses will not be made outside of working hours or during school holidays, with the exception of an emergency.

Will the School be using Google Meet again?

Yes, Google Meet will once again be used to facilitate live video calls with the Classroom Teacher and the Students.

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.



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.

Where can I find helpful resources around Wellbeing?

Helpful resources will regularly be uploaded to the school's Remote Learning Portal and the SkoolBag App.

St Francis de Sales understands that this is a very unique situation the world is in and that remote learning may cause a significant degree of anxiety for you and your child. Working remotely will certainly present with some challenges, so please be sure to look after yourself and the people in your family.



How can I continue to promote Positive Behaviour for Learning at home?

At St Francis de Sales Primary School we have developed and implemented a whole school approach to Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL). We aim to support Student Wellbeing with a strong focus on the encouragement and development of appropriate behaviours.

During this extraordinary time, we are encouraging families to continue to promote the Positive Behaviour approach in the family home. We have called this Positive Behaviour for Remote Learning (PBRL).

Under the PBRL approach, we encourage parents to explicitly teach children appropriate behaviours and to set explicit behaviour expectations in the family home. This system of positive reinforcement acknowledges when students display appropriate behaviour choices and meet the family expectations.

At St Francis de Sales we have identified our four school expectations as:

SAFE KIND RESPONSIBLE PROUD

These four expectations can also become 'home' expectations. To support the teaching of Positive Behaviour for Remote Learning, a collection of lessons that incorporate the expectation 'RESPONSIBLE' and Social/Emotional Learning (SEL) will be delivered to students each week.

We encourage families to recognise appropriate behaviours on a regular basis through praise, issuing rewards in the family home and incentives to promote and reinforce behaviours demonstrated by their children. Negative behaviours need to be corrected proactively. Make your child aware of unacceptable behaviour and re-teach the desired expectation. Continue to use the key expectations of **SAFE, KIND, RESPONSIBLE** and **PROUD**. Positive practice and consistency are the key to promoting student success.