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Supporting home learning

Thank you for all you are doing to support your child/ren and we hope that the first two weeks of home learning has gone well. We realise that it may take some time to get into a routine and that it may appear quite daunting.

Here are some suggestions which might help you:

Be realistic about what you can do:

- You are not expected to become a specialist in every subject area!
- Remember that your children are not used to learning like this so they are adjusting to this new way of working
- If there are two of you, share the load
- Experiment – this is likely to require a bit of trial and error
- Look after your own health and wellbeing

Try to create a routine:

- Children are used to routines as part of their everyday school life
- Try to involve your child/ren in creating a routine/timetable that works for all of you – you could use their planner to support this routine
- Try to stick to the routine, but recognise that it will require flexibility on occasion
- Designate a workspace/area which is quiet and comfortable
- Your child/ren will probably need access to their mobile phone/tablet to check Class Charts and their school email, but once they have what they need, it is best for phones/tablets to be put to one side
- Display the routine/timetable you have created where it can be clearly seen
- Distinguish between weekdays and weekends

Check in at the start and end of each day:

In the morning, examples of questions could be:

- What work are you going to do today?
- What are your learning targets or goals?
- What resources do you need? Do you need any help with anything?

In the afternoon, examples of questions could be:

- What did you learn today?
- Have you sent any work in to your teachers? Have you had any feedback?
- What was challenging? You could come up with a strategy to deal with the same problem if it comes up again.
- What are you particularly pleased with and why?
- 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

Examples of check-in questions:

- What are learning about at the moment?
- Does the task you are doing make sense?
- Are there any words/terms in the work you are doing at the moment which are new or unfamiliar?
- Can you explain to me what you have to do to complete this task?
- (if they are stuck) Which bit of this do you not understand? (do not accept "all of it")
- Does this work link to anything else you have done recently?

Other reminders:

- Make time for exercise
- Build in time for breaks

All work being set is done via Class Charts, so you can also log in and check your child/ren's progress and tasks being set for them. If you have any queries about the work or your child/ren's engagement, please contact the relevant teacher via email, or use the admin@marywebbschool.com contact.