

How it Works...Self Directed and Independent Learning

Being ready to learn

- Establish a daily routine that works for your family. This may include helping out with meals, chores around the house, reading, getting some fresh air
- Particularly for younger children - set up easy access to the Backpack by placing it in favourites and save passwords and log-ons so children can independently logon
- Support your child to be learning ready - having breakfast, getting dressed, maybe starting with a preferred activity, getting some morning movement in for example
- As a family, establish a timetable for activities you would like to undertake throughout the day. Schedule in time through the day to check in with each other providing opportunities to ask questions. This may minimise the amount of disruptions to your day if you are working from home as well.
- Set up a dedicated learning space that is quiet and calm and free from distractions. You might remove any unnecessary software, close all unused tabs, adjust text size, background colour to suit your child.

Setting learning goals

- Don't expect children to work from 9 until 3, work in blocks of 30 minutes with rest/activity/movement/food/water breaks/exploring things of interest to your child including play in between each block
- Aim for a daily practice of some reading, writing, number work, movement, and creative activities (craft, art, drawing, dancing, music and singing).

Engaging in the learning process

- Have resources such as children's books within reach - help your child with organisation
- Gradually build learning stamina, increasing time on task each day - it may be challenging for children initially to access learning in this way
- Review tasks with your child carefully before beginning so they feel confident in independently completing the task
- Help children practise using what they've learned - we all value knowledge we can actually use. Sometimes we need to make an effort to use it, though. Create opportunities for students to use their knowledge
- Be patient - don't do the task for them even though it may be tempting. Encourage independence, break down the task into manageable chunks. Different children can hold different amounts of information. Teachers sometimes use the language 'We will do this and then this...', just two steps at a time
- Online learning has been provided by the school but families are also able to explore things of personal significance to their families for example cooking traditional foods, planting winter vegetables, caring for animals, sharing oral stories, researching a passion etc.

Reflect on the day

- Ask your child a few questions to allow them to reflect on their productivity for the day, such as:
 - What did you read about?
 - What was the highlight of the day?
 - What can you teach me about your learning?
 - What are you looking forward to learning about tomorrow?

ACT Education - Resources to Support Home Learning

This resource library can be used to support you and your children in home learning. This supplements what has been provided by the school via Google Classroom.

<https://sites.google.com/ed.act.edu.au/act-home-learning/resources-to-support-home-learning?authuser=0>