



# OPUA SCHOOL

*Manaakitanga me te Awhina  
Caring and Sharing*

## **Opua School Learning at Home Guidelines for Parents April 2020**

Kia ora tatou,

We hope all is going well in your home bubble as we return to school for the start of Term 2 which officially begins on Wednesday, 15th April. We know some families have continued to keep learning going during the last 2 weeks also.

During this time family wellbeing, building resilience and being parents take priority. You will have to take the lead in what is working and what isn't. Use teacher expectations to support you with learning. Children trying and gaining some success will build resilience also. Teachers will be looking for and supporting this.

These circumstances are a steep learning curve for all of us and hopefully by working together we can ensure we make the best of a difficult situation. Below are some guidelines to support families with learning at home:

- ★ Develop a learning routine that works for you. Teachers have sent home examples but if you are managing children and working from home you may need to adapt yours.
- ★ Teachers will also set a routine for connecting with students, setting & monitoring tasks and providing feedback.
- ★ Some teachers have children at home and are juggling their work/family time as well, so there will need to be some flexibility from everyone to find the best routine.
- ★ Please talk with your child's teacher if there are issues with connectivity or timing to try to solve the problem. The best way of contacting teachers is to send them a message on their school email. Teachers will check their email daily and respond with an email or a telephone call as soon as possible.

- ★ Younger students in Y1-3 will need greater support to guide and monitor them through many activities. Some they will be able to complete independently.
- ★ Older students in Y4-8 should be developing their ability to take responsibility for their own learning - completing tasks set and asking for support from their teacher during contact times or from parents if stuck.
- ★ Teachers will try to connect with students regularly.
- ★ Talk to teachers about issues you are having relating to learning at home to try to solve them together.
- ★ Encourage children to develop their key competencies - ability to problem solve, work with others, cooperate and be part of a team.
- ★ There are always games and lots of activities you can do together that allow children to develop the above.
- ★ The Ministry has a database of those families who need devices, but senior students will be a priority.
- ★ Be patient and support and encourage your children but, if learning is creating anxiety for you and your child, let it go. Do the tasks that children are happy to do. Look for and support the positives of family time and take care of each other.

Nga mihi nui,

Opuia School Staff

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