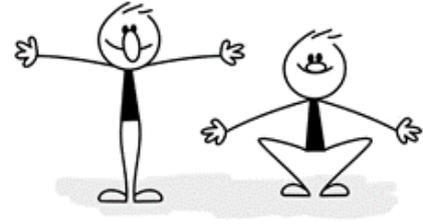




Growing our Heart



Growing our Brain



Growing our Body

Northgate State School Learning At Home Program



Dear Parents and Caregivers

It would now appear that the direction we will be taking as we move into Term Two is that of being able to offer a Learning at Home Program in addition to an School Campus program. **This is based on current advice received by the Federal Government and is subject to ongoing changes.**

It's important to remember why these actions are being made available. This morning I read this quote "***We are staying in so we can go back out. We are staying apart so we can get back together. We are loving one another well so we don't make one another sick. All our hard todays are for a lot of happier tomorrows***" - **Beth Moore**. I love this and it serves as a reminder regarding the 'why' behind the 'what'. As a community we need to safely embrace our tomorrow.

Over the past 2-3 weeks we have been preparing for what a Learning at Home Program could look like for Northgate State School students whilst keeping in mind that many of our students will have parents who are also working at home.

As an educator I am strongly invested in ensuring our students have access to high quality learning no matter what their circumstances. I do not want our children to look back at 2020 as the year they missed out on their learning due to CO-VID 19. That means that we need to do things a little differently.

Differently means that when young people look back at this year they will remember how they learnt to learn independently in their homes, how they developed techniques for study organisation, how they spent quality time with their parents in a way they have never experienced before. Perhaps they will look back at this year and remember the kindness of strangers when things were tough or will relish in the new skills they learnt through the use of technology.

Our Learning At Home Program will provide all of those things and more. A balanced program that embraces what is important to families at this time.

This is something that we have had to work on quickly and we are still getting the details right but please take a moment to read through the following pages so you can have a greater understanding of what some parents may be preparing their children for in Term Two.

Yours in Education

Mrs Amanda Turnbull

Acting Principal

Northgate State School

Learning At Home Program

At Northgate State School we believe that 'Every Student Every Day Thinking and Learning Together' is what will develop successful learners. This mandate does not change in the current climate, we are committed to providing opportunities for our young people to engage with Thinking and Learning in spite of their physical location.

Below we have developed some guiding principles for 'Learning At Home'. These principles have been informed through consultation with our parent and staff community.

Heart



Principle 1: Growing your Heart at Home

Our HEART values remain consistent whether our students are learning at school or at home. To grow our hearts all families are encouraged to engage with our social and emotional learning program (You Can Do It) and to practice the HEART values in their home environments.

Northgate State School recognize that at the time of development of the Learning at Home Program our world is in a changing climate. Therefore, we recognize the need for additional learning supports for parents and students that are focussed on healthy hearts.

Brain

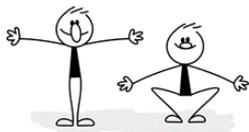


Principle 2: Growing your Brain at Home

Northgate State School are committed to growing our students every day through quality thinking and learning activities. The guiding principles of our Learning at Home program are that students will:

1. Have access to online or print ready materials.
2. Have daily access to their Year Level teacher to help support learning activities and answer questions. Communication via Zoom, Email or One Note will be encouraged as the preferred format. Where this technology is not available, teachers will arrange to have a phone call check-in with families.
3. Take responsibility for their learning with the support of their parents/care givers (***the school acknowledges that some parents will also be working from home and there will be limitations to the level of support that can be provided***).
4. Students will engage in learning that encompasses daily academic activities, routines that enable critical and creative thinking processes and a balance between curriculum tasks, real-life learning and activities that support their wellbeing.

Body



Principle 3: Growing your Body at Home

Northgate State School value the importance of physical activity and healthy eating. These two components are essential to healthy development. We recognize that in the current climate students need to engage in physical activity and healthy eating to maintain healthy minds. The Northgate State School Learning at Home program will provide suggested activities for students to support this principle.

We acknowledge that the skill of organisation is one that we will also be encouraging our students to develop as they negotiate their learning space in the home environment.

“Every Student, Every Day, Thinking and Learning Together.”



Frequently Asked Questions for Parents?

How do I access Learning At Home materials for my child?

1. Students have been provided with their EQ Login and Password. Parents have been provided with instructions on how to access Class One Note. All students will have access to a Class One Note Book that will provide daily activities for children who are learning at home. Activities will be divided into three components

Growing our Heart

Growing our Brain

Growing our Bodies

Activities include links to online programs. Northgate State School has subscriptions to the following online programs that children can access;

Sunshine Classics (Reading Program) www.sunshineclassics.com

Literacy Planet (Reading and Writing Program) www.literacyplanet.com

Typing Tournament (Year 3-6) www.typingtournament.com

Mathletics www.mathletics.com

Code.org (Available for all students for free)

E-Books Digital Library (Digital Library Subscription) www.soraapp.com

Learning@Home Hub (Education Queensland)

2. What if I don't have internet or computer access?

For those parents without computer/internet access we encourage you to remain in our school-based campus learning program for as long as possible. Where this is not possible, work will be sent home in hard copy format.

This will need to be pre-arranged with your class teacher. Class teachers are working to establish who is most impacted by not having computer/internet access.

Your class teacher will check-in with families regularly to see how you are going and what further resources you may need to support your child in home learning.

3. What level of communication can I expect from my class teacher or year level teacher during this time?

At the time of producing this document it is important to note that our class teachers are still maintaining a classroom learning program. As we move towards a greater number of students learning at home then we will move to a model where one class teacher for each year level maintains a working at school program (where possible) and one class teacher maintains a working from home program. At this point you can expect;

- A. Each week materials and tasks will be updated to the 'Grow your Brain, Grow your Heart, Grow your Body' Section your child's notebook. We suggest that students access these activities and ensure they are completing one of these activities each day to nourish their brain, heart and body.
- B. Each teacher will provide instructions on the type of learning they have provided for at home and will be available each day to discuss this learning with your child or with each parent.
- C. We are encouraging families to download Zoom to their computers and establish a free Zoom Account for their child. This can be done using the child's eq.edu.au email address.

“Every Student, Every Day, Thinking and Learning Together.”



Frequently Asked Questions for Parents?

4. Where do I even start to set up a Learning at Home Program?

Setting up your child to learn at home involves two very important elements—Routine and Environment.

For children to learn at home you must have an environment established that provides space for children to learn. It is important that this space is clear from clutter and distractions. Things that can be distracting include televisions, gaming equipment or being in an area of the house that has a lot of 'traffic'. Think carefully about the environment your child is going to be working in and as much as possible adjust that environment to include an organised space with the materials needed.

Routines are also very important. Each One Note Class Book has been given a suggested learning routine. You can use this as a guide for your child. We suggest placing a visual timetable on the wall or near your child's desk and each day allow your child to tick off the boxes they have completed. The suggested timetables include space for activities in all areas. For learning at home to be successful an organised and structured routine will need to be established. The first few days may be hard to put in place but once in place children will thrive on the predictable nature of the day.

5. I have been running this 'learning at home' program for 2-3 days and I am really struggling. What can I do?

We want to reassure parents that staff at our school are only a phone call or a video conference away. If you are struggling with engaging your child in learning please give us a call or set up a Zoom Video Conference. Our teachers may not be physically with you but they are with you and are ready to support you with any questions you have.

Our Guidance Officer, Chaplain and Learning Support Teacher will all be available to connect with while you are on this journey. At the time of producing this document the best avenue for contacting one of these staff members is via the office on 3370 2333.

6. I have more than one child and only one device for them to use, what do I do?

Routine is essential. Establish time for each child to access the device and rotate through the day. There are other activities that siblings can be doing and are encouraged to do. Check out the visual timetable in your child's One Note to plan access to the device in an equitable manner.

7. My child is really missing their friends?

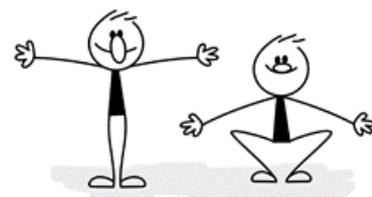
This season of life is about distant socialising not just social distancing. Find away to connect via video conferencing or through emails and phone calls with your children's friends. Keeping them connected to their friends socially is still very important during this season.



Growing our Heart



Growing our Brain



Growing our Body

**Northgate State School
Learning At Home Program**

