ONLINE LEARNING

What learning is happening?

Schools in Tasmania are preparing to transition to online learning. Many schools already use online learning to support classroom learning and most young people are already familiar with these platforms.

You may have some concerns about this new learning environment. Be assured that your young person is building skills of independence and self-regulation. Young people will have access to support from their teachers and a clear idea of the study tasks/assignments that they are required to complete. Communication with teachers will be very important.

Some classes may be accessible through a live stream involving the teacher and other students. Students will need to know how to access online classes and schedule these into their calendar.

Some learning may involve assignments accessible through the school’s Learning Management System (LMS). These can be studied at any time. Students will be required to submit assignments using the LMS. They will receive feedback from their teachers through this system.

What your young person will need:

On-line learning occurs when students are connected to the internet via a compatible device.

Your young person can access online learning through a variety of devices – laptop, phone, iPad etc. In addition, they will need:

- access to the school’s LMS and teachers’ e-mail addresses.
- learning materials to support each course being studied e.g. a personal device with audio/video capacity, texts, drawing materials, course outline, work requirements.

Health and wellbeing:

The transition to online learning may be challenging for some young people. Schools will endeavour to support this transition as much as possible. However, it will be up to you support and reassure your young person in this new learning environment.

Schools will follow guidelines on recommended screen time for young people. In general, this should be limited to no more than two hours a day. Online learning will also include offline activities (e.g. reading, revision, worksheets) to ensure that these guidelines are met.

Schools will provide young people with guidance about appropriate on-line learning behaviours. These include Cyber Safety and Conditions of use for ICT. You should ensure that your young person understands these guidelines.
General Tips

1. Use the current school timetable to organise blocks of study or create a timetable that suits your young person’s study priorities. On a monthly calendar, write down all the deadlines that need to be met.

2. Be prepared for an adjustment period – it may take several weeks for a young person to establish a routine that they can stick to. Be patient yet firm!

3. Discourage procrastination or avoidance – make sure that the timetable/calendar is followed.

4. Work with your young person to set up supportive learning routines and spaces. Be as positive, flexible and supportive as you can with their learning.

5. Ensure that learning materials are organised before study begins and that everything is within reach from the study chair.

6. Find the best time to study. When is your young person most alert? Are they a morning, afternoon or evening person?

7. Encourage your young person to learn some new information or a new skill every day - all learning can be valuable!

8. Establish a ritual to finish each day.