MATHEMATICS

What you will need:
In order that your young person can remain in contact with their teacher and class - a phone or internet-enabled device may be needed for this purpose. They may need access to the school’s agreed means of electronic file sharing and contact information such as the teacher’s e-mail address. Find out what Learning Management System or document sharing platform your young person’s class will be using.

If possible, provide learning materials and a space for your young person to move or work online.

They should also have:

- access to resources prescribed by their teacher. Some of these resources may be made available digitally.
- a type of calculator defined in the resource requirements in the Course Document.

How you can help:
Learning at home provides a great opportunity for young people to study at their own pace. They will need to review course materials, practice problem-solving and perform calculations. Your young person’s mathematics teacher will provide the activities to complete. They will explain how to access materials and what your young person needs to do.

You can support your young person by:

- helping them to establish a study plan including making a schedule of when assignments are due. This will help them to prioritise study commitments appropriately.
- checking in on their learning. You can enquire about key mathematical concepts they have been learning. Mathematics learning is highly sequential, for this reason it is important to understand each concept before moving on.
- assisting them to access complementary learning activities (see section below). This may include examples, activities or problems to practise and build understanding.
- encouraging them to practise, practise and practise! Each mathematical problem has its own characteristics. Practising different types of problems is important to develop fluency and flexibility. This will help to prepare your young person for assignments, tests and examinations.
- if possible, assisting them to review their answers. If they have made errors, encourage them to review worked examples. Reviewing how they approached the problem and where they went wrong is a great strategy to avoid making the same mistakes in the future.
• talking about and becoming involved in their learning. You could help to create a set of flashcards with all the concepts and definitions they need to know. You could then test them on their ability to explain concepts, recite formula or define key terms.

Complementary activities

In addition to the learning activities and resources prescribed by your young person’s teacher, you could assist them to find extra resources that support and/or extend their learning. Some particularly suitable websites include:

• Khan Academy (https://www.khanacademy.org)
• Eddie Woo’s Youtube channel (https://misterwootube.com)
• Glen Prideaux’s Maths Pages (https://maths.wp.prideaux.id.au/mas/) - Maths Specialised only
• nRich Maths (https://nrich.maths.org/)
• NCTM Illuminations (https://illuminations.nctm.org/)
• ABC Splash (https://education.abc.net.au/home#/home)
• Maths Is Fun (www.mathsisfun.com)

Applying mathematics to all facets of life is always valuable to consolidating learning. You can help by providing opportunities for your young person to help out with routine tasks. Encourage them to think about how maths might help in the situation! You may choose to keep a record of this learning as evidence to share with their teacher. Examples include:

• Tutoring of younger siblings with mathematics study
• Researching ‘best buys’ for grocery items to buy using online delivery
• Construction and planting out of garden beds
• Cooking involving conversions or scaling of recipes

Links to more information:

• Learning at home¹ on the Department of Education website

¹ www.education.tas.gov.au/learning-at-home/