

*Teaching & Learning at Home*

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**Every moment is a learning opportunity**

As a parent or carer you can help us personalise your child’s learning by:

* Liaising with school, using the home school diaries, email, meetings and phone calls, letting school know about your child’s range of experiences, new interests or developments in their learning (achievements at home);
* Working on the same targets in school and at home;
* Collaborating with school on positive behaviour management strategies and supports to help your child manage and take control of their behaviour
* Looking at the things your child is learning at school and helping your child to experience it in a different way e.g. if they are learning about numbers at school – then at home, looking at the numbers on doors/cars/price labels/costs etc; and
* Collaborating with your child’s teacher and agreeing learning targets and supporting learning of the targets within the home context
* Providing activities that will contextualize learning at home and school and will enable learners to develop lifelong skills, e.g. writing the shopping list, (or arranging/choosing the symbols or pictures) going to the shops, finding the items, carrying them home and putting them away and later using them to help cook dinner.

**For learners in Skye, Mull and Jura classes:**

* Encourage the development of early communication skills by using objects of reference, photographs or symbols to help your child understand what is happening now and next and to help them make choices and express themselves (we can provide you with these if that is your child’s preferred communication mode)
* Encourage language and communication through play; talk about what you and your child are doing, “putting man in car, finding the blue car,” etc. Extending what they are communicating e.g. “Car” “Blue car” “Big blue car” “Big blue car with a man in.” etc. adding a word/sign/symbol onto the sentence.
* Apply the use of PECS to the home setting, discuss your child’s targets in this area.
* Provide access to sensory and messy play activities.
* Talk to your child about the environment around them; and helping them to experience it e.g. moving through the long grass, letting them investigate things around them.
* Read to your child as often as you can. Access the links to websites on Haysholm Glow Blogs for access to digital stories.
* Develop independence through: doing jobs, allowing time to do things for themselves, helping with cooking and shopping, having a responsibility on trips and outings.
* Encourage the development of self-care skills; brushing teeth, dressing, undressing, swimming, washing hands, using the toilet.

**For learners in Arran and Bute Class:**

* Continuing to support communication development and understanding of the world through use of visuals (objects of reference, photographs, symbols and written words.
* Encourage independence and life skills through: shopping, using calendars, telling the time, money management, developing home life skills, cooking.
* Take time to share your child’s interests and allowing them to communicate about them.
* Encourage learners to take responsibility for their belongings and for personal organization.
* Read with your young person. Access the links to websites on Haysholm Glow Blogs for access to digital stories.
* Develop their interests out with home and encourage access to community facilities to support their independence for life after school.