

HELP FOR PARENTS - SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD'S LEARNING FROM THE ST. JAMES PARENT SUPPORT ADVISORY TEAM (PSAT)



PARENTS ARE VERY IMPORTANT IN A CHILD'S EDUCATION. HOW MUCH AND HOW WELL OUR CHILDREN LEARN DEPENDS NOT ONLY ON THE SCHOOL AND TEACHERS, BUT ALSO ON THE HOME AND THE PARENTS OR GUARDIANS.

When the child is young and has not yet started school, parents should prepare the child for learning. Reading stories to children, showing them pictures, talking to them, teaching them words and providing them with colourful toys or objects that they can play with are some ways a parent can stimulate a young child.

When children begin school, parents can support their learning by providing them with healthy meals, making sure they do their homework and keeping in touch with teachers to find out how the child is doing in school. Parents also need to give children the books they have to use in school. If these are too expensive, parents must contact the school to see what help is available.



DO

1. Make sure your child attends school regularly.
2. Make your child goes to Basic, Primary and High Schools.
3. Keep in touch with your child's teachers.



DON'T

1. Think your child is "too young" to start learning.
2. Stop your child from going to school at any stage.
3. Leave your child's learning to the school.

TRY THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES TO HELP YOUR CHILD LEARN WELL IN SCHOOL:



1. BABY (PRE-SCHOOL)

Play with and talk to your baby. Give baby colourful toys that he or she can touch and play with. You can make your own toys from old socks, colourful boxes and plastic bottles. Make sure these are clean and that there are no little pieces that baby can swallow.



2. BASIC SCHOOL

Read stories and sing to your child. Help him or her learn letters, numbers and colours. Give your child pencils, crayons and paper so he or she can draw pictures. Encourage children to use their hands to make things. Answer children's questions.



3. PRIMARY SCHOOL

Continue reading to your child and encourage him or her to read to you as soon as he or she starts to learn. Let your child join a local library. Check on homework and keep in touch with your child's teacher. Use the television to watch educational programmes with your child.



4. HIGH SCHOOL

Keep in touch with your child's teacher by attending PTA meetings and class meetings. Check on your child's homework, even if you cannot understand all the subjects he or she is doing. Encourage your child to work hard in school and reward his or her achievements and success.



The St. James Parent Support Advisory Team (P-SAT) is here to assist parents. We give parents the chance to learn how to do better at the job of parenting. We also give parents an opportunity to share and learn from each other, with the support of specially trained persons who give information on a number of topics.

If you or your community would like assistance from the PSAT, please contact us:
c/o THE CHILD DEVELOPMENT AGENCY, 4 KERR CRESCENT, MO-BAY 9524362;9711569
or at

THE PSAT RESOURCE CENTRE, 1ST FLOOR VANHAZE BUILDING, 16 EAST ST, MO-BAY

