















Gace Schools Family Support Contributing to Life's Journey

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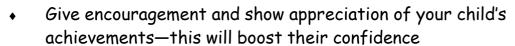
Working Together to Prepare our Children for the Challenges of Tomorrow

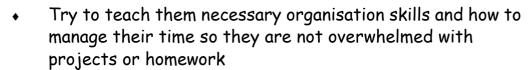
Top Tips for Supporting your Child in School A Guide for Parents



Children can achieve well at school when their family and friends take an interest in their school and schoolwork. Getting involved in your child's education, even in the simplest way, shows that you care about their school life. Often, the more supported a child feels at home, the more effectively she or he will learn at school. Whatever your lifestyle, or family situation, it is never too soon (or too late) to start helping a child develop a positive attitude towards learning.

Help your child get the best out of school





- Be realistic and avoid putting your child under pressure by having over-high expectations
- Try to give feedback rather than criticism, e.g. saying 'that didn't seem to work' rather than 'you got it wrong'. This helps them think about where they went wrong rather than feel a failure.



Tips to help you keep up with what's happening at the school

- Make sure your child gives you any letters that are sent home
- Look out for notices and posters for parents
- If you can, check the school website
- Try to make it to the fun events, like school fairs, and to parents' evenings

Top Tips for Supporting your Child in School



Out of school support

Often parents like to introduce a variety of interests in and out of school too so children have the opportunity to explore other interests that they enjoy.

- Learn together and do things together
- Visit interesting places, talk about things you've seen on television and allow your child to ask questions
- Encourage reading by having books, magazines and newspapers in the home and let your child see you and other family members reading them
- Try not to fire too many questions at your child as soon as they walk through the door. They may be tired or hungry and not feel like talking. Be available to listen later if they want to talk



Thinking ahead

Education is more than just Maths, English and Science. Sports, Art, Computers, whatever your child's talents, you can help them aim high by boosting their confidence and you can do this by:

- Encourage them to join after-school clubs or activities
- Tell your child how proud you are when they do well
- Let them hear you praising them to other people
- Talk together about their future and the kind of job they think they would enjoy
- Ask them to help you with things they are good at

If you are worried about anything go and talk to a teacher. They will want to help.



Information provided within this factsheet has been developed in conjunction with material available from Family Lives. For more information visit www.familylives.org.uk or contact Student and Family Services on 01923 264504 or 07538 232069