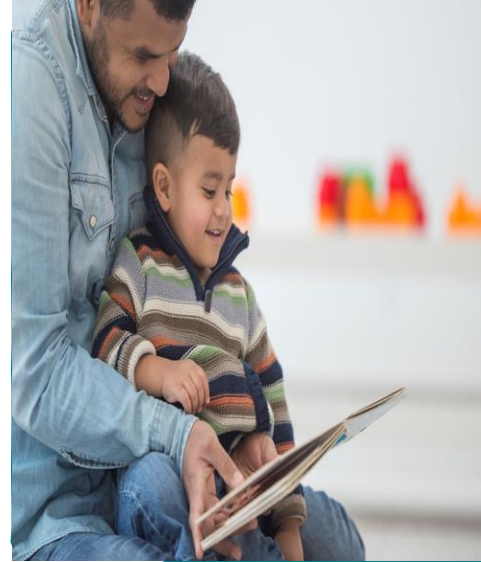


# St. Bernadette's Parent Hub - Supporting children's learning at home

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# Aims

Identify some benefits of the home-learning environment (HLE) for early years and school-aged children

Improve your knowledge of some strategies which parents and carers can use

Review suitable resources to enhance learning opportunities

Address some of the challenges

# How do I help my child?

- Spend time together
- Library
- Visit places of interest
- Provide a study space
- Extra lessons
- Education resources
- Read together regularly
- Support with homework
- Attend school meetings
- Extra curricular activities

# Learning language

- Babies are hard-wired to learn languages
- Over 800 language sounds
- Around the world bilingualism/multilingualism is the norm rather than the exception



# Bilingualism is an asset

Identity

Cultural competence

Connections to home country

Better achievement in school

Employment opportunities

Thinking skills

# Some advantages of multilingualism

## **Improved executive functioning of brain**

can switch attention, switch between tasks and solve problems more easily

## **Metalinguistic awareness skills**

ability to think about language and how it works

## **Easier to learn a 3<sup>rd</sup> language**

# Key principles

- **Bilingualism is an asset**, and the first language has a continuing and significant role in **identity, learning and the acquisition of additional languages**
- Supporting continued development of first language and promoting the use of first language for learning **enables children to access learning opportunities within the EYFS and beyond** through their full language repertoire
- Cognitive challenge can and should **be kept appropriately high** through the provision of linguistic and contextual support
- Language acquisition goes **hand in hand with cognitive and academic development**, with an inclusive curriculum as the context

# How can I help my child?

## Babies



- Stories (told and read)
- Rhymes, action rhymes
- phonics (playing with sounds)
- Children's centre sessions & practise at home
- Screentime - but not constant  
you are best resource! (animated, connected, varied)

# How can I help my child?

## Toddlers



- Rhymes and stories
- Outings - park, shops, walks
- Keep active and keep language flowing (with opportunity for child to respond)
- Children's centre, childminder, preschool (repeat, develop and enhance activities which have been enjoyed)
- Limit screentime\*

# How can I help my child?

## Nursery / Reception



- Continue as with the toddler and add activities which will support speech and language, reading, writing, maths (EYFS)
- Continue stories and rhymes – good rhymers make good readers
- Regular reading and book sharing
- Role play – small world, characters, pretend stories with family members
- Outings to places of interest (e.g. bank, bakery, supermarket, post office, farm)

# How can I help my child?

## KS1 & KS2



- Help your child to develop their interests and friendships by attending groups and taking part in activities
- Use school website to find out 'What is my child learning this term?'
- Regular reading with your child in a relaxed atmosphere
- Provide a space for your child to do their homework
- Provide opportunities to support home-learning with research, outings and activities

# Importance of first language

- Keep the first home language alive – strengthen family ties
- Read books together in either language and talk about the pictures and ideas
- Celebrate the language – make sure the child is proud to be a speaker of two or more languages



# Storysacks to support literacy (can be made at home)





Early years,  
KS1 & KS2



Early Years

<https://foundationyears.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/What-to-expect-in-the-EYFS-complete-FINAL-16.09-compressed.pdf>

Early Years

**Some online resources  
for parents and carers**

# Useful websites

1. [www.peeple.org.uk](http://www.peeple.org.uk)
2. <https://small-talk.org.uk>
3. <http://www.mantralingua.com>
4. <http://eyalliance> – parents' corner
5. <http://mkpa.co.uk>
6. <https://abcdoes.com>
7. <https://www.letterboxlibrary.com/>
8. <http://hungrylittleminds.campaign.gov.uk> \*\*
9. <http://literacytrust.org.uk> – chat read play \*\*
11. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/tiny-happy-people> \*\*
12. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/improving-the-home-learningenvironment>
13. <https://ican.org.uk/i-cans-talking-point/parents/resources/> - speech & language
14. [https://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/websites/4\\_11/index.shtml](https://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/websites/4_11/index.shtml) \*\*

\*\* short of time, start with these sites