

# Encouraging Productive Learning

Information For Parents  
and Carers

## Did you know?

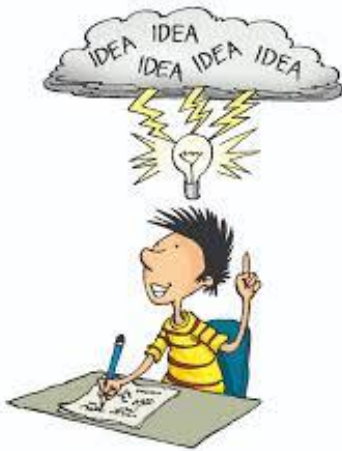


Having a tidy space can reduce stress and improve productivity. Another way to maximise opportunities for work and reduce distractions is to ensure the space is organised with everything needed for studying: laptop, books, pens and any other equipment. If you want to go a step further, plants are shown to not only create a calm space but also aid concentration.

Many people find approaches like the Pomodoro technique help to increase their levels of productivity as it allows for focused 'work' time for 25 minutes, and then a five-minute reward break. It is often surprising how much we can actually achieve in short bursts of time when we are fully focused, with no distractions, and know that there is a clear end when we'll get to do something we want.

Experts in nutrition stress the importance of healthy diets for ensuring the most effective working of our brains. For example, although caffeine and sugar can provide bursts of energy, consuming these can lead to significant dips in focus and energy. We also know that easy swaps can lead to more balanced nutrition and energy levels, like using wholegrains, nuts and berries.

## What can you do?



Sit down with your child and offer to help them create a timetable of study. Work with them to map out the free time they could use to study and the free time that should be 'work-free' so they can do things they enjoy. Plan out the subjects and units they know they need to work on and schedule these into their 'work' slots. If your child is receptive to doing this together, it can help them to see that they aren't expected to use all of their 'free' time to study, and that taking breaks and investing time in their hobbies and friends is important and valuable for them and their wellbeing.



**3**

**Key**

**Points**

Help your child to create a productive learning environment, a quiet space where they can work at a clear surface with as few distractions as possible. Encourage this to be a social media-free space.

If possible, when your child is studying, bring them some snacks and a drink to help sustain them. Encourage your child to either prepare, by themselves or with you, healthy recipes with brain-boosting foods. Use the link below to give you some inspiration!

<https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/recipes/collectio n/brain-boosting-recipes>