## **Resources for Student & Parents during Remote Learning**

### What's going to help?



### Maintain routines where possible

- Maintain as many aspects of your routine as possible. Break tasks down into manageable chunks and give as much notice as possible about transitions and changes to routines and environments.
- Have realistic expectations of children and young people during this time, especially if they are transitioning in and out of school.

### Talk about what's happening in the news

Talk about the importance of getting information from trusted sources like government websites. Draw their attention to the facts around the outbreak and the reassuring aspects of this information. For example:

- Children are unlikely to experience severe symptoms if they contract coronavirus.
- There are few cases in Australia compared to the rest of the world
- Government and health professionals have been preparing for a pandemic for a long time and are acting quickly to minimise the outbreak and develop a vaccine.

It's important to listen to any questions children and young people may have, and to let them know that it's normal to feel concerned.

If the media or the news is getting too much for them, encourage them to limit their exposure. For more information watch Beyond Blue's video on <u>Talking to kids about scary stuff in the news</u>.

Why not check out BTN – Behind the News on ABC for kids (Google it!) This brings current news and events to children in a very non-confronting and child-friendly manner.

### Impacts of stress on learning

Children and young people develop coping skills through exposure to manageable amounts of stress. However, when there are high levels of stress or multiple stress factors (especially those they can't control) then it can impact on their physical and mental health, relationships, and learning and development.

Take it easy, don't have arguments you don't need to have. Their emotional wellbeing is most important at this time.

Be kind. Be safe.

Thanks

Mick McCann

Below is a list of agencies, websites, phone numbers and apps that can help during these stressful times.

# If you need to talk to someone...

Name	About	Phone	Online
Kids Help Line  kidshelpline Anytime lany Reason	For anyone 25 or under - Kids Helpline is a free, private and confidential 24/7 phone and online counselling service for young people aged 5 to 25.	1800 55 1800 24/7	Webchat 24/7 https://kidshelpline.com.a u/get-help/webchat- counselling
Lifeline  Cifeline Saving Crisis Support. Suicide Prevention.	For all ages - 24-hour crisis support telephone service. Lifeline provides 24/7 crisis support and suicide prevention services.	CALL: 13 11 14 24/7 TEXT: 0477 131114 6:00PM - Midnight	Crisis Support Chat 7:00PM – Midnight https://www.lifeline.org.au /get-help/online- services/crisis-chat
Youth Beyond Blue	Beyond Blue provides information and support to help everyone in Australia achieve their best possible mental health, whatever their age and wherever they live.	1300 22 4636 24/7	Chat Online 3:00PM - Midnight https://www.youthbeyond blue.com/
Headspace CO headspace	Headspace provides free online and telephone support and counselling to young people 12 - 25 and their families and friends.	N/A	Group Chat 24/7 1 on 1 Chat 9AM - 1AM https://headspace.org.au/ eheadspace/
Carers NSW Carers NSW Australia	Carer Line offer emotional support, referrals and distribute carer specific resources and information to carers and community members	1800 242 636 9AM – 5PM Monday - Friday	http://www.carersnsw.org. au/how-we- help/support/carer-line/
Mental Health Line Mental Health Line 1800 011 511	A mental health professional will answer your call about mental health concerns for you or someone you are concerned about, including children, teens, adults and older people	1800 011 511 24/7	https://www.health.nsw.go v.au/mentalhealth/Pages/ Mental-Health-Line.aspx
NEW	Child Protection Helpline	13 21 11	https://reporter.childstory. nsw.gov.au/s/mrg



# If you are looking for an app...

Name	About	Website
Clear Fear	The fear of threat, or anxiety, is like a strong gust of wind. It drags you in and makes you want to fight it or run away.  Instead, face your fear with the free Clear Fear app and learn to reduce the physical responses to threat as well as changing thoughts and behaviours and releasing emotions.	Free App Store Google Play
ReachOut Worry Time	ReachOut WorryTime interrupts repetitive thinking by setting aside your worries until later, so you don't get caught up in them and can get on with your day. This means you can deal with worries once a day, rather than carrying them around with you 24/7	Free App Store
ReachOut Breathe	ReachOut Breathe helps you reduce the physical symptoms of stress and anxiety by slowing down your breathing and your heart rate with your iPhone	Free App Store
Smiling Mind	Smiling Mind is a meditation app for young people. It has been developed by a team of psychologists and uses mindfulness to boost calmness, contentment and clarity. Mindfulness meditation has been shown to help manage stress, resilience, anxiety, depression and improve general health and wellbeing.	Free App Store Google Play
WellMind	WellMind is designed to help you with stress, anxiety and depression. The app includes advice, tips and tools to improve your mental health and boost your wellbeing.	Free App Store Google Play

# If you are looking for online support...

Name	About	Website
The BRAVE Program  The Brave Program.	BRAVE-ONLINE is an evidence- based cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT) available online to help children (8-12) and teenagers (13- 17) cope with anxiety	https://www.brave-online.com/
CONNECTEDSPACE	A website provided by Relationships Australia Victoria with tip sheets, news and useful links to help young people manage problems and issues such as bullying, relationships, stress and mental health, and conflict with parents	https://www.connectedspace.com.au
Smiling Mind	Online and app-based program to improve wellbeing of young people through mindfulness meditation.	https://www.smilingmind.com.au/
MyCompass <b>my</b> Compass	Are you feeling the pressures of study, finding a job or starting a career? It has an interactive self-help service that aims to promote resilience and wellbeing for people experiencing mild to moderate stress, anxiety and/or depression	https://www.mycompass.org.au/You ngAdults
Calm Mind Co	Calm Mind Co is founded on the embodiment of fundamental practices that we can work with and embody that enhance life and expand impact.	https://calmmindco.com/

# If you are seeking additional information...

Name	About	Website
REACH OUT.com	Our mission is to deliver innovative e-mental health services that enable young people to take control of their mental health and wellbeing.	https://au.reachout.com/
Black Dog Institute	Primary areas of mental health research and treatment include: depression, bipolar disorder, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), anxiety, workplace mental health, adolescents and young people, suicide prevention, e-mental health, and positive psychology and wellbeing.	https://www.blackdoginstit ute.org.au/