This sample was developed by the Home Education Unit to assist parents with ideas about planning using a term by term or yearly overview format. Samples of English and Maths only have been included. It may give you some guidelines as you develop your own program matched to the age, ability and aptitude of your child. It is not provided as a program for your child.

Home Education Program for Leigh

Educational and Personal Goals:

Short Term (this year)

To develop Leigh’s literacy and numeracy skills in preparation for transition to Secondary School next year.
To enable her to choose topics she is interested in so that motivation is maintained.
To encourage her to develop sound study habits of goal setting and time management so that she progresses towards being an independent learner.

Long Term (future years)

To provide an environment in which Leigh develops confidence in all areas of life.
To give Leigh the opportunities for success in whatever occupation is chosen.

Overview of My Child’s Learning Needs, Styles and Teaching Strategies required:

Leigh is an average student who has benefited from the one on one attention that home education has provided. The early years at school were a struggle for her as she was young for her age. She lost confidence in her ability to cope and gave up trying. However, being able to focus on areas of weakness, putting in extra effort where required, she has proved to herself that she is a capable student. She is looking forward to returning to high school with her friends, knowing she is equipped with the skills she needs.

This year we plan to work on her approach to learning – setting short and long term goals, using time management skills to maximize learning, and incorporating Accelerated Learning techniques. We both feel this will be an advantage for her when she attends regular school.

I also plan to make sure she knows sound research practices and does not take the easy but dishonest approach of plagiarism. All resources will be acknowledged properly.
Description of the Home Learning Environment:

- **the physical environment**: private and shared study spaces, lighting, ventilation, display areas, storage, computer access, indoor/outdoor facilities
  
  Leigh has her own desk and computer in her bedroom for private quiet study time, but often works at the dining room table or on the verandah. All rooms are airy and well lit. Her bedroom has a large bookshelf with boxes for storage of her learning materials. There is a wall for display of any art work or certificates she has earned. The back yard is a great place for her to read, conduct experiments, garden and play.

- **the motivational environment**: indoor/outdoor activities; hands on and real-life experiences; daily routines/tasks; variation of routines/tasks; individual/group learning opportunities; interactive learning
  
  We have a daily routine which suits Leigh. As she is a “morning person”, the most intensive learning is done for the first couple of hours, leaving the fun, less taxing lessons for later in the day. There are breaks for snacks and meals. We try to fit in at least one excursion per week. She meets with other home educated students for sport. To make her learning more interesting, there are lots of hands on activities, especially with Maths and Science.

Social Opportunities:

- **peer & other interactions** - friends, home education groups, sporting clubs/associations, church, classes, travel/excursions
  
  Leigh belongs to a choir – she loves singing. One day she hopes to be in a band of her own as lead vocalist. She goes to gymnastics at the local gym and has swimming lessons once a week. The home school sport is a favourite time for her. Leigh is still friends with the children she went to school with in the early years as they live in the neighbourhood. She has friends stay for sleepovers.
  
  We go on excursions to places that suit her current topics of study and regularly visit the Art Gallery. When there is a good play at the local theatre, we make sure we don’t miss it. Leigh thinks she might like to join the amateur drama group, so we will approach them this year.

Curriculum information:

Aligning with *The Australian Curriculum (Foundation to Year 10)*


Senior Secondary Years - Overview

Aligning with *Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority, Essential Learnings (Years 1 - 9)*


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English Language Literature Literacy</th>
<th>TEACHING STRATEGIES</th>
<th>LEARNING</th>
<th>RESOURCES</th>
<th>ASSESSMENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Leigh will:</td>
<td>How will my child’s learning goals be achieved? What topics will they explore?</td>
<td>What activities will my child do? What skills, knowledge and concepts will they develop?</td>
<td>What variety of resources will my child and I use? (List specific titles and levels.)</td>
<td>What work samples will I collect? What information will I record?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Explore characterization, settings and plots of selected novels.</td>
<td>Include graphic novels. Look at poetry in different forms – haiku, couplets, free verse, ballads. Continue developing spelling skills. This year, using Latin and Greek roots – an etymological approach will be used. Study grammar informally through errors she makes in her writing. This will be backed up with practice on selected internet sites.</td>
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### TEACHING STRATEGIES

**How will my child’s learning goals be achieved?**

- Place Value:
  - numbers > a million
  - positive and negative nos
  - decimal fractions

**What topics will they explore?**

- Square roots of perfect squares
- Commutative, associative and distributive laws.

**Problem solving – estimating and exploring range of solutions.**

**Financial literacy and plans.**

**Algebraic expressions applied to real-life situations.**

**Graph drawing and interpretation.**

**Fractions – mixed numbers and operations with fractions.**

**Percentages.**

**Simple ratios.**

**Rounding numbers – including decimals.**

**Shapes – prisms & solids**

**Perimeter & Area**

**Measurement**

**Data displays using mean, median and mode.**

### LEARNING

**What activities will my child do?**

**What skills, knowledge and concepts will they develop?**

- Include real life applications.

- Activities will be selected from a variety of sources. The resources have been carefully chosen to help Leigh use her knowledge to think Mathematically – see resource list.

- Online learning will be included to reinforce skills.

- Financial Literacy – Leigh will learn the basics of everyday money transactions, credit, the importance of saving, the need for budgeting, the role of advertising and peer pressure; and the consequences of financial decisions – website investigation and real life application of using money wisely.

- Leigh will calculate costs of weekly excursions. Record the data and graph expenditure in a variety of formats.

- Leigh wants to decorate her bedroom. She will calculate the cost of new furnishings and paint. Measurements will be taken; scale drawings created; quantities of fabric and paint required will be established. She will actively be involved in the process – integrated studies for Technology.

### RESOURCES

**What variety of resources will my child and I use?**

- (List specific titles and levels.)

- Maths Quest 7 (Jacaranda)

- Thinking through Mathematics – Engaging students with inquiry-based learning Book 3 (Curriculum Press)

- iMaths National Edition (Firefly Education) was selected because it is an investigation-based Maths program using investigations to consolidate traditional practices. There are student books, assessment books and teacher books.

- Back to Front Maths (Kennedy Press) – a problem-based Maths resource to encourage students to think and reason like mathematicians, teaching through experimentation and investigation.

- Financial Literacy website.

- Khan Academy
  - http://www.khanacademy.org/

- A Maths Dictionary for Kids 2010 by Jenny Eather
  - http://www.amathsdictionaryforkids.com/

- IXL Maths website
  - http://au.ixl.com/math/

- NRICH
  - http://nrich.maths.org/public/University of Cambridge website

### ASSESSMENT

**What work samples will I collect?**

**What information will I record?**

- Include practical investigations.

- As Leigh is of Year 7 age, we plan to sit the NAPLAN tests.

- Maths Quest 7 completion.

- iMaths assessments and selected investigations.

- Graphs of expenditure related to excursions.

- Scale drawings of bedroom. Costing of decoration. Photos before and after bedroom refurbishment. Write-up of process to accompany decorating project, including recommendations for future projects.

- All work samples will be dated.