

Keeping in Touch with Your Child's School

Children need to know that their parents believe education is important. The very best thing you can do is to be interested in your child's school life. It may not be easy but keep trying – it will make a difference!

Call or write to your child and ask about school.

- ✓ Ask open ended questions (where the child answers more than just yes or no) such as tell me what you are studying in science this week.
- ✓ Encourage your child to go to school every day.
- ✓ Find out what your child's favorite and not so favorite subjects are. Tell them what yours were.
- ✓ Are you taking classes now? Tell your child about your experiences so they know school is important and that learning is a life long process.

Don't be afraid to ask for information from your child's school. Be polite especially if it takes a little time to get the information.

- ✓ You might want to ask the school to mail your child's report cards and some of your child's work to you. You could write the teacher yourself or ask your child's caregiver to give your address to the school. If it is easier, you could ask the caregiver to get extra copies and then have the caregiver mail them to you.

Note: One mom mails their daughter's spelling words to dad on Monday then he quizzes their daughter over the words when he calls on Thursday night.

- ✓ It is your right to keep the school from knowing where you are, but it is your responsibility to stay involved with your child.

Send or do things for your child which can help them with reading and writing.

- ✓ Make an audio recording of you reading a book to your child. They can read along and play it over and over.
- ✓ Find out what books your older child is reading in class (reading other than their text books). Read the book too and then talk or write to your child it.
- ✓ Write a short story or a poem for your child. Ask them to write one for you.

Be patient with your child! If your child isn't used to you asking about school, they may not want to answer questions at first. Give them some time, but keep trying.

For additional information or assistance in contacting your child's school, please visit with the Chaplain, Case Manager or Institutional Activity Coordinator