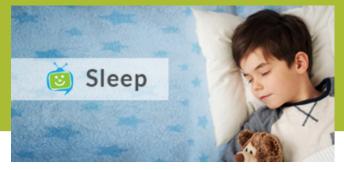


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In this edition of SchoolTV - Sleep

Students today have extremely busy schedules, with ever increasing responsibilities at school and at home. Many kids, especially adolescents, are going to bed later and later and are at risk of sleep deprivation. This affects three areas of a child's development: psychological, physiological and psychosocial. All three are essential to a child's growth, learning ability and overall wellbeing. Sleep is vital to a child's overall development and is as important as diet and exercise.

Sleep also strengthens a child's immune systems and supports their ability to function properly on a daily basis. Children who do not get enough sleep show increased levels of aggressive behaviour, are less attentive and are much less active. Trying to catch up on sleep on weekends is not the answer and can still lead to severe sleep deprivation.

In this edition of SchoolTV, parents will learn about the importance of sleep and how sleep deprivation can have adverse effects on a child's health and wellbeing. We hope you take time to reflect on the information offered in this edition of SchoolTV and we always welcome your feedback. If you have any concerns about your child, please contact the school counsellor for further information or seek medical or professional help.

Here is the link to the Sleep edition of SchoolTV:

https://spcamperdown.catholic.schooltv.me/newsletter/sleep

Visit our <u>SchoolTV page</u> for expert advice, videos and further resources to help with this topic.







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Why is sleep important for good mental health?

Good sleep habits have been shown to improve mood, concentration and performance at school or work. They may also help control overeating and help prevent obesity.

Lack of sleep is linked to symptoms of depression such as feeling down, hopeless, irritable, having thoughts of suicide, and using alcohol or other drugs.

Research suggests that for every hour of sleep you miss at night, there is a:





increase in risk of unpleasant emotions or feelings that affect day to day function





increase in the chance of having thoughts of suicide



increase in the chance of using tobacco, alcohol or marijuana.





increase in the chance of feeling sad and hopeless



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increase in the chance of suicidal behaviour

People who regularly go to sleep very late each night and don't wake up until the afternoon may have Delayed Sleep Phase Syndrome, and are at an increased risk of developing insomnia and depression.

Very short sleepers (less than five hours each night) are more likely to experience long-term mental health issues than people who get enough sleep.

On the other hand, if you sleep more than the recommended amount each night, find it hard to wake up in the morning or still feel tired during the day, something else might be going on.

If you're worried about any aspect of your sleep, or are experiencing any of the negative consequences of bad sleep, get in touch with your GP.