

# TIPS FOR HOME-SCHOOLING



During the school closures, there are varying levels of what schools are offering.

Here are a few tips on keeping your children engaged...

## Know your child

Different children will do best in different learning environments. If your child learns better in groups, try a Zoom study session with a fellow classmate. The older children are, the longer they may be able to work on their own. And remember, resources are going to become available slowly for students who need them – you do not have to do this all by yourself. **Always remember that your best is enough.**

## Keep children learning, healthy and happy.

### **Plan and prioritise: The core subjects**

If you're not a teacher by trade, give yourself some realistic goals - trying to conquer the whole curriculum is probably going to make you and your child anxious (especially if you're juggling your work and this new teaching role). Prioritise the core curriculum - Maths and English.

There are lots of ways to cover the rest of the curriculum and you can get creative with these, for example, watching Horrible Histories or Blue Planet is a great way to cover some of the humanities. And don't worry, Ofsted won't be calling anytime soon.

### **Opening your new school**

When teaching – try starting with the why. It helps the children understand the purpose of the task and enables them to understand why they're being asked to do it.

After why, give a choice, this can be a great motivator. Include your children in the discussion around the different topics you cover and when you're going to do so.

Set a few rules and expectations.

### **Establish a routine**

Children and adults react well to structure, especially a morning routine; maybe even get out of your PJs and put on your new school uniform? Try to design the day of learning together and if possible, allocate a specific work space for your new class - their new classroom. This way they can primarily associate this space with their learning and will find it easier to switch off when in other areas of the house.

To try and maintain some links to their usual school experience, consider setting break and lunch times. You don't need to install a bell for this, but if you feel like it, a whistle will suffice. Make sure you take into consideration any of your work commitments that may affect this if you aim to align your work with their learning time.

## Resources to support home learning

Gov.uk has compiled a summary of resources for use at home

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-online-education-resources/coronavirus-covid-19-list-of-online-education-resources-for-home-education>

### Youtube Resources

Read, Write, Inc – Daily phonics lessons

Draw with Rob – Art

Maddie Moate – topics including science, body & space

Geography classroom

Captain fantastic – daily schedule covering all subjects

Joe Wicks – daily PE lessons

BBC Teach

### Internet Resources

BBC Bitesize

Education City

Purple Mask

Twinkl

TED Ed

School websites



### Example Timetables

Get ready for the day	• Have breakfast, have a wash, get dressed
9am Activity 1	• Online learning from school OR a craft activity (cutting and sticking, painting, baking)
10am Activity 2	• Online learning from school OR some writing or maths - write a story, count coins
11am Get active!	• Play in the garden, do an exercise video
12 Lunchtime	
1pm Help about the house	• Help tidy up, Hoover, wash up
2pm Quiet time	• Do something calm, like reading or colouring
3pm Activity 3	• Online learning from school OR be creative – make some music, design an outfit
4pm Have some free time	• Enjoy toys and tech
5pm Dinner time	• Help prepare dinner – help tidy up too!
6pm Family time	• Play a game, watch a movie, spend time together
Get ready for bed	• Have a bath, get pyjamas on, read a story

### Key points –

Speak to friends and family, video and voice calling can really help your children and family and friends who are isolated. Use a video call to read to grandparents?

Take advice and share ideas and resources.

Keep in touch with your child / children's schools for home learning, support and parent groups.

Build some daily exercise into the routine.

Always remember – your best is enough