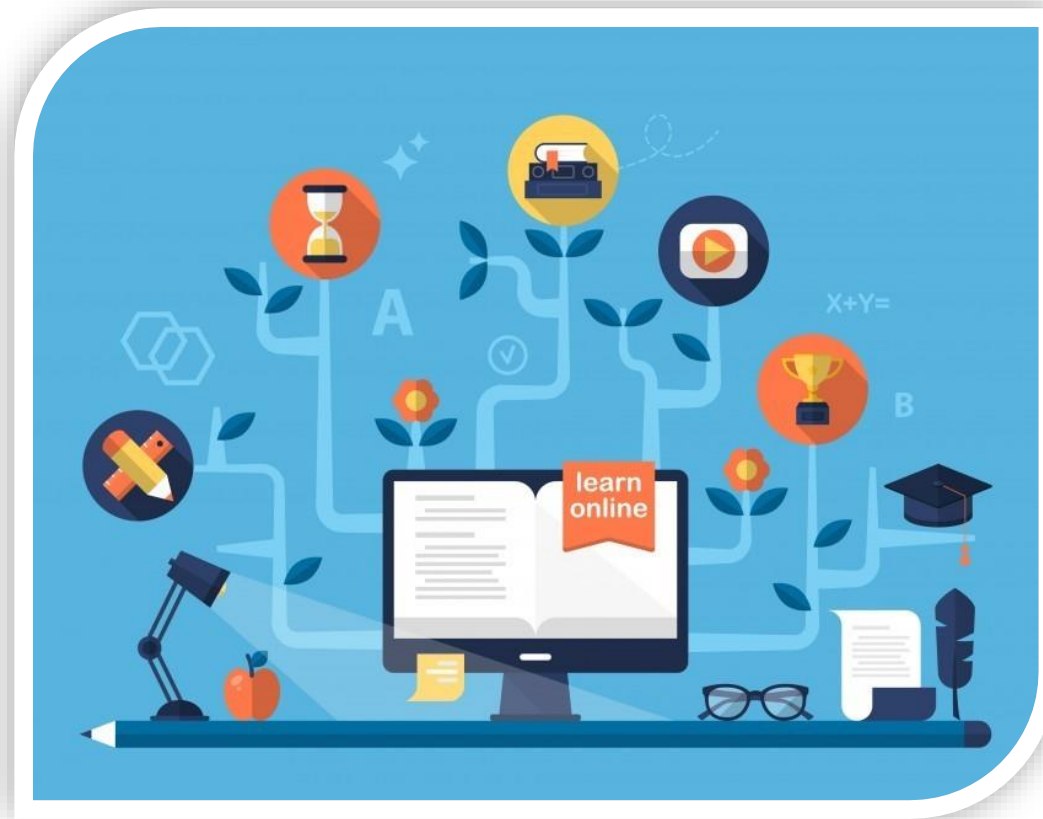


REMOTE LEARNING



Tips for Students, Parents and Carers

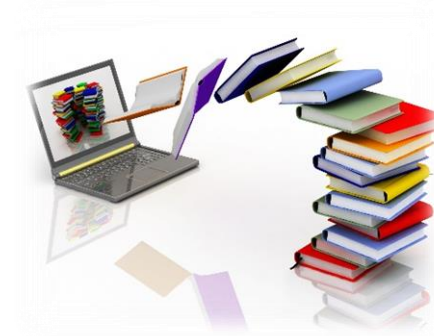
As we move to remote learning for the majority of our students, we thought it might be useful to share with you some tips for working with your child at home. We want this to be a positive experience for the whole family, with a focus on ensuring that their learning continues.

At Pathfinder Schools, our overarching principle for remote learning is that our students remain connected with their school community and learning continues.

During remote learning Pathfinder Schools staff will:

1. Endeavour to connect with their students every day online;
2. Ensure that their students have a clear timetable and structure for their day;
3. Ensure that their students have access to new learning connected with their prior knowledge;
4. Ensure that their students have access to consolidation materials where they can practise and apply their previous learning;
5. Assess work and provide feedback;
6. Be proactive in supporting all students to actively engage with the remote learning materials.

We appreciate that this period of remote learning will bring as many challenges as it will rewards, and hope that the following suggestions are helpful as you support your child's learning.



Expectations

Talk to your child about the expectations for their learning. It is helpful to have shared understanding that although learning remotely, it is still important to complete the work set by the teacher. Expectations for behaviour and engagement are the same remotely as they are in the classroom. The remote learning will mirror, as closely as possible, the learning that students receive in school. Your child will, on the whole, follow their school timetable and complete 5 hours of learning per day. These lessons will contain a combination of live teaching, independent tasks, video tasks, and will in some cases make use of other online platforms set by our staff. As the schedule is full and busy, like a school day, it is important that they are well-organised. They must be logged into their online classroom on time each day with the right resources to hand: device fully charged, paper, pen, pencil, ruler and a glass of water.

Maintain a schedule

The timetable of online learning is structured like the normal school day, so it might be helpful to have a clear family schedule that supports this. Stick to going to bed at a reasonable time and getting up in the morning as you would if you were going to school. It will be important to take a break from the screen during breaks and lunchtime.

Find a good workspace in the home

This isn't always easy, especially if you have a busy household. If possible, find a quiet space to complete their schoolwork where there aren't too many distractions. It is also important that they don't get too isolated. If they're working in another room. Encourage them to avoid distractions, such as personal messaging on mobile phones.

Plan the day

Review the timetable of learning for the day together and help them to plan their work. This is a really important independent learning skill and you should work towards your child developing their own plan. Set some goals for the day – this is a great way to stay on track and they can reward themselves when they achieve it! Check in with your child during the day and ask them to explain their learning to you.



Be an ERA Learner

Excellence	<i>Exceeding our high expectations</i>
Resilience	<i>Learning from failure and coming back stronger</i>
Aspiration	<i>Aspiring to be better everyday</i>

Parents and carers don't need to be a full-time teacher or education content expert and you mustn't be overly-worried if your child gets 'stuck' with their learning. Being 'stuck' means that they are being challenged and it is okay to struggle. Help them to apply their learning strategies and to be independent - ask them to explain how they could get unstuck. They should make use of the range of online resources available to them. It might be they don't have enough knowledge or know how to apply a particular skill. They might just be tired and need a break. In some cases, you might learn alongside your child, but if you're not sure, contact the teacher via email, or ask in their next Teams lesson for help.

Take a break from the screen and online

It is important to take time away from the screen, some quiet time where they can engage in a low-key activity. This may happen naturally in a busy household where you have to share devices, but if not, set reminders for a break from screen time.

Encourage physical activity and exercise

We know that exercise is good for our bodies and our minds – this is true for both adults and children. In school, your child would normally be walking between classes and be physically active during breaks and PE sessions. All students have been emailed with resources or online lessons for core PE – encourage them to make full use of these during their normal scheduled PE lessons – this is part of their 5 hours timetable. Aim for at least 60 minutes of physical activity that makes them breathe faster and feel warmer. Alternatively, you can spread the time over the day. Encourage them to get outside, if you are able to.

Manage their worries and help them see the positives

Your child might be anxious or worried about the current situation and change to their routine. They might be worried about their learning and missing the connection with their friends. Encourage them to talk with you, be reassuring and help them to reframe challenges as opportunities. Make the most of the opportunity to spend time together, do the activities that you've been trying to get around to or even try something new.

Connect safely with friends

It is likely that your child will miss their friends and their teachers. You can help your them maintain contact with friends through social media and other online technologies. But do monitor their social media use and remind your child to always be respectful in their communications and to follow school guidelines.

Read lots

We are never too old to share a book together! Read widely and read often, ensuring that you continue to nurture their love of reading. Share a book, a comic or an article. Read together and talk about what you have read or ask them to tell you about a book they are reading! This should be a low-stress, enjoyable activity that you can share together. If you are in need of another reading book, please contact front reception who will be able to pass this on and coordinate getting a book to you.



Your child will need to download the Teams mobile app (please use the Google play store or the Apple Store) or the [desktop app for Microsoft Teams](#) via their device.

For an instructional video explaining how to access lessons on Teams and use files via Teams, please follow the links [here](#) and [here](#) (to view this, your child will need to login using their school email and password).

Useful Links

[Young Minds](#)

[Every Mind Matters](#)

[DIY Projects for Teens](#)

[Creative Bug](#)

[Barnes and Noble free e-books](#)

[Obooko Teen and Young Adult free e-books](#)

[National Geographic Kids](#) and [National Geographic](#)

[BBC Newsround](#)

[Google Arts & Culture](#)

[The British Museum](#)