



Learning in the Home – Secondary
Phase Information and Support

Welcome to your Help Guide!

This guide aims to provide useful advice and signposting to promote independent learning, in accordance with our learning homes caring schools ethos. We hope this guide will be helpful for the children in your home to further their education.

In this booklet you will find:

- Learning activities to do at home
- Useful links and ideas for self-study
- Advice and links for EAL students

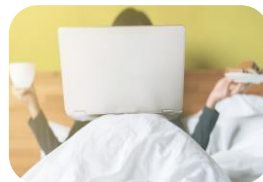
We hope that you find this resource useful!

North Yorkshire Virtual School Team

Whilst every effort has been made to ensure that the links provided are accurate, we are not endorsing companies/providers.

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Fun learning activities you can do at home!

Write a letter or make a card for somebody special. Walk to the post box and post it

Learn to sign the Makaton Sign of the Week
<https://wetalkmakaton.org/>

Play board games, learn card games and do jigsaws together

Make a quiz for the family

Play a game such as Name That Tune, Twenty Questions or Chain Reaction

Play the BBCs Climate Challenge.
http://www.bbc.co.uk/sn/hottopics/climatechange/climate_challenge/

Try at home science experiments.
<https://www.sciencefun.org/kidszone/experiments/>

Get them to join in on a DIY project

Visit a historic site together

Five ways to keep your children entertained and engaged when learning at home

Keep them engaged in real-time learning: Ensure the activities are interactive

Keep them active: Make activities active or take star jump breaks frequently

Keep them full: BBC Food has a guide on learning through cooking
https://www.bbc.co.uk/food/articles/learning_through_cooking

Keep things short and simple: Your child will learn more if you do a few short sessions a week

Keep them coming back for more!

Hobbies and interests to engage in together!

NASA - Play as you learn about NASA and its missions

• <https://www.nasa.gov/kidsclub/index.html#.VpP5hDZH3zI>

Learn basic engineering

• <https://www.primaryengineer.com/>

Learn how to DJ

• <https://www.algoriddim.com/apps>

Creative Bug – Online classes for anyone interested in arts & crafts

• <https://www.creativebug.com/>

Learn how to draw cartoons

• <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCHRHILY0t3i5VvKEeFMoJxw>

Learn how to play the Guitar

• <https://try.fender.com/play>

Curiosity Stream - Thousands of documentaries for All ages

• <https://curiositystream.com/>

Learn the basics of Computer Science

• <https://code.org/break>



YouTube



Warning - take care with the suitability of adverts, auto-play and content recommended down the right hand side which can be unpredictable – it's best to load it up full screen before beginning the session.

DIY Science Challenges

• <https://new.siemens.com/uk/en/company/education/students/diy-videos.html> age 7-11

The Brain Scoop - shares the work and research of natural history museum

• <https://www.youtube.com/user/thebrainscoop>

SciShow

• <https://www.youtube.com/user/scishow>

Geek Gurl Diaries – Videos on Science, IT & STEM subjects.

• <https://www.youtube.com/c/GeekGurlDiaries/videos>

Mike Likes Science - Musically learn computer coding

• <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCxZpM39a6aPP62h95rdEo7A>.

Science Max

• <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0PHcnoYXHHY>



The Children's University is a charity that aims to develop a love of learning in children. They aim to improve the aspirations and attainment of pupils aged 5 to 14 by providing learning activities beyond the normal school day, such as after-school clubs, visits to universities and museums, and 'social action' opportunities such as volunteering in the community. Participation is rewarded through credits, certificates and a 'graduation' event.

As well as developing the wider child, an EEF study found positive impacts on Key Stage 2 maths and reading results equivalent to about 2 months' additional progress.

The Virtual School is part of the Children's University, contact us for more details by emailing virtualschool@northyorks.gov.uk



Reading together

Below are lists of books, recommended by Pie Corbett, that Primary School aged Children will enjoy to read with support. Secondary age books will be set by the school, but most of the books on the Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 list will still challenge KS3 and 4 readers when they are reading independently for enjoyment.

Year 3 Books

The Iron Man –
Ted Hughes

Cat Tales: Ice
Cat – Linda
Newberry

The Sheep-pig –
Dick King-Smith

The
Abominables-
Dick King-Smith

The Lion, The
Witch and The
Wardrobe – CS
Lewis

The Battle of
Bubble and
Squeak

Year 5 Books

The Wolves of
Willoughby
Chase – Joan
Aiken

Varjak Paw – SF
Said

Street Child –
Berlie Doherty

The Midnight
Fox – Betsy
Byars

Tom's Midnight
Garden –
Phillipa Pearce

FARThER –
Grahame Baker-
Smith

Year 4 Books

Bill's New Frock
– Anne Fine

Charlotte's Web
– EB White

Why the Whales
Came – Michael
Morpurgo

The Firework
Maker's
Daughter –
Phillip Pullman

The Snow
Walker's Son –
Catherine Fisher

Voices in the
Park – Anthony
Browne

Year 6 Books

Holes –
Louis
Sachar

Clockwork –
Phillip
Pullman

The Hobbit
– JRR
Tolkien

Skellig –
David
Almond

Fireweed –
Jill Paton
Walsh

River Boy –
Tim Bowler

Use your favourite author's websites

Below are some examples of the most popular Authors for Secondary School aged children. For others, just search for an author's 'official website'. The sites often contain information about the Author, FAQ about books and even activities.

Antony
Horowitz

• <https://www.anthonhorowitz.com/>

J K
Rowling

• <https://www.jkrowling.com/>

David
Walliams

• <https://www.worldofdavidwalliams.com/>

Jeff
Kinney

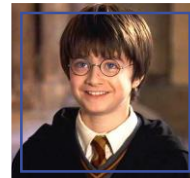
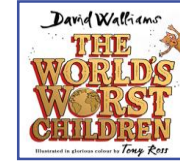
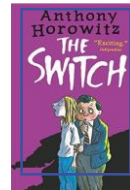
• <https://wimpykid.com/>

R. J.
Palacio

• <https://wonderthebook.com/about>

Also check out competitions to win free books!
<https://www.lovereadng4kids.co.uk/competitions>

Stories narrated by famous people:
<https://www.storylineonline.net/>



Useful web links to help your child's education

Science Kids - Fun science experiments, cool facts, free games

• <https://www.sciencekids.co.nz/>

Quizlet - Revision tool for all ages

• <https://quizlet.com/en-gb>

Tynker - Coding activities

• <https://www.tynker.com/>

Literacy Shed – Literacy inspiration for Early years to 15+ years

• <https://www.literacyshed.com/home.html>

Good to Know - Pretend to travel the world, virtual tours of museums and zoos.

• <https://www.goodtoknow.co.uk/family/best-virtual-tours-for-kids-536089>

Audible - Free audio stories for all ages

• <https://stories.audible.com/discovery>

Nrich creative maths challenges with answers

• <https://nrich.maths.org>

Follow this link to the BBC Bitesize homepage -
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>

Pick your year and subject and start learning from home today!

Videos, articles and quizzes for KS3 & GCSE students to support their learning.

Resources for over 36 GCSE subjects!

You can save any lesson or activity to My Bitesize to complete later.

It is advisable to explore the site to find the most appropriate topics for your child.

Resources available for KS3



Activities for Children Learning English as an Additional Language

Learn English Kids: British Council - Free games, songs, stories and activities.

- <http://learnenglishkids.britishcouncil.org/>

Agenda Web - English activities including Grammar, Verbs and Vocabulary

- www.agendaweb.org

Collaborative Learning - A wide range of activities, on a wide variety of subjects.

- <http://www.collaborativelearning.org/activities.html>

MANTRA - Free access and resources to dual language library books, including Dyslexia friendly books.

- <https://uk.mantralingua.com/homereading>

Oxford Owl - Free access to on-line books for children aged 3-11. Suitable for Children with a low reading level.

- <https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/library-page>

BBC Learning English – Activities in Grammar, Vocabulary and Pronunciation.

- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/learningenglish/english>

How to keep your child safe online!

These websites are recommendations only and content can change. Please make sure to safeguard your children by using 'parental controls' from your internet provider and on the device they are using. We recommend supervising them and regularly checking the search 'History'.

For Older Children to learn how to stay safe online

- <https://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/bullying-abuse-safety/online-mobile-safety/staying-safe-online/>

Resources on how to keep children safe online

- <https://www.childnet.com/resources/>

Useful guides specifically about keeping Looked After Children safe online. There is also a section on responding to behaviours/warning signs in an appropriate manner

- <https://www.internetmatters.org/inclusive-digital-safety/>

Health and Wellbeing Tips

Prioritise

- Break up tasks into manageable chunks
- Categorize items on your to do list as must, should, could
- Forgive yourself if you don't achieve what you set out too

Focus

- Disrupt negative thinking by paying attention to the present moment
- Notice how your feet hit the floor when walking from room to room
- Tune in to the taste and texture of your food as you eat

Exercise

- Dance to your favorite song
- Do push ups during the adverts on TV
- Walk to a local park with a friend
- Learn a dance routine on YouTube

Breathe

- Take control of your breathing
- Perform slow and rhythmic breathing in and out
- Listen to meditation guides such as on the Calm app

Gratitude

- Take notice of the pleasures in life
- Thank others for what they do more often
- Get into the habit of listening or reflecting on three good things which you are grateful for each day

The *Every Mind Matters* campaign is offering practical NHS-endorsed tips and advice to support children's mental wellbeing