



Home Learning - It is essential that you do keep in touch with your child's teacher at least twice a week. Please upload any work as requested – As an important part of our safeguarding commitment, we will be referring any families that we do not hear from regularly to the appropriate agencies for 'safe and well' checks. We have been instructed by the Government to be very clear that there is an expectation and a legal requirement for children to be accessing an education whether at school or at home and so we will be contacting/referring families who have not engaged regularly with their remote learning offer.

Laptops

Thanks to generous donations by the Potteries Educational Trust and by Werrington Parish Council, we do have some laptops available to support home learning and would like to invite applications from families who would like to enter into a loan agreement with the school .

We will not allocate more than one device per household. All loans will be free of charge but parents will have to sign a Loan Agreement accepting liability for any damage to, or loss of, the computers and will have to agree to our 'Acceptable Use Policy'. If you feel that your child would benefit from the loan of a computer, please message Mrs Prince, either by email (c.prince@werrington.staffs.sch.uk) or by phone (01782 980010).

Swiggle

You might want to encourage your child to use Swiggle to help with their online learning at home.

Swiggle is a search engine designed to provide a safer environment for children taking their first steps on the road to safe online searching.

Powered by Google Custom Search, the results are filtered using Google SafeSearch and educational resources prioritised. They also filter the search terms to check that Swiggle is not being used to search for inappropriate content.

Swiggle can be found at: <https://swiggle.org.uk/>

Polite Reminder

If your child is attending school, please adhere to the following:

- Visiting adults **MUST** wear a mask within the school grounds
- Everyone **MUST** adhere to our one-way system – The only point of entry to the school is the pedestrian gate at the main entrance. The only exit points are the gateway by the Co-op and the gateway by the Werrington Library.
- If your child has been offered a place in school, only send them in on the days when you cannot keep them at home.
- Where possible, encourage your child to make their own way into school from the entry point. If an adult does need to accompany a child into the school grounds, it must be one adult only per family.

Any person not adhering to the above, risks having their offer of a school place removed.

Home Learning

There has been some brilliant engagement with our home learning tasks – Some of the work that the children have produced at home has been amazing. Keep up the good work!

If you struggling to deliver home learning, do not worry – You are not alone.

What children need right now is to feel safe, comforted and loved. To know that everything's going to be OK – **This might mean routines and timetables for home learning might have to be abandoned on some days.** All we ask is that you do your best and that you keep in regular contact with school.

Thank you for your patience

At present we have 143 children attending school. Due to the high number, every single member of our teaching and learning staff is actively engaged in teaching children in the school building – This will mean that they may not be able to respond to messages as quickly as usual.

Big Garden Birdwatch

We might not be able to get together with loved ones at the moment, but you can make plans with friends and family to take part in the world's largest wildlife survey, all from the comfort of your own homes. Please follow the link below to get involved:
<https://www.rspb.org.uk/get-involved/activities/birdwatch/>

REMOTE EDUCATION 10 TOP TIPS FOR PARENTS

Remote education ensures continuous learning outside the classroom. For parents and carers, remote education isn't always straightforward and there can be a number of factors they need to consider, especially around ensuring their children feel comfortable and are familiar with the whole concept. That's why we've created this guide to help parents and carers support their child in getting the most out of their remote education experience.

1. TAKE AN ACTIVE INTEREST IN YOUR CHILD'S LEARNING

As a parent or carer, your school may have explained how remote education works already, but children may still need help. Take an active interest in their learning and help support them whenever they need a helping hand.



2. MONITOR YOUR CHILD'S COMMUNICATION AND ONLINE ACTIVITY

It's important to remind your child that despite being at home, the same level of behaviour and conduct exists as if they were at school. Encourage them to remain polite, remember their manners and not to post or send any negative comments just because they are behind a computer.



3. ESTABLISH A DAILY SCHEDULE AND ROUTINE

Working from home and trying to learn in a more casual setting that children might associate more with play and a degree of freedom might take a bit of getting used to. Try to stick to a daily routine and use the timetable/schedule that schools have sent home to help children keep on top of their daily learning.



4. ENCOURAGE SCREEN BREAKS AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AWAY FROM DEVICES

Remote learning will inevitably require more interaction with computers, laptops and tablets. Teachers will invariably advise on screen breaks: however, it doesn't hurt to keep a check on their time online or encourage them to get some fresh air/exercise.



5. ENSURE YOUR LEARNING DEVICE IS IN PUBLIC SPACE IN THE HOME

It's important to consider where your PC or laptop is placed if live video is being used. Try to keep the background neutral, with no personal information visible and move learning devices out of the bedroom as this could be deemed inappropriate.



6. IMPLEMENT SAFETY CONTROLS AND PRIVACY RESTRICTIONS ON APPS AND SOFTWARE

Dependant on how your school implements remote education, your child may be required to download certain software or apps. Whilst these are likely to be relatively safe to use, like any other new app or platform, parents should still implement safety controls as a precaution.



7. ENSURE YOUR CHILD ONLY USES OFFICIAL SCHOOL COMMUNICATION CHANNELS

It's important that all communication with teachers and school staff is directed through approved school channels, whether that be through the school's online portal or the relevant secure messaging site.



8. FAMILIARISE YOURSELF WITH RELEVANT SCHOOL POLICIES

Schools should have a policy on remote education that they can share with parents. Familiarise yourself with this and ensure you know what is expected of teachers and your child during lessons, both online and offline.



9. MAINTAIN FEEDBACK WITH TEACHERS

Engage in communication with teachers where possible, and try to feed back progress and development as well as any helpful suggestions around the learning process. Be transparent but remain professional and only use official channels to communicate.



10. MONITOR YOUR CHILD'S WELLBEING AND MENTAL HEALTH

Remote education will likely mean that your child won't get the same level of social interaction and might not see their friends for a while. Keep a check on their wellbeing and try to encourage them to get out as much as they can. Whilst learning from home might seem fun and exciting to start with, missing out on seeing their friends every day might take its toll.

