

Learning at home during the coronavirus pandemic

Your D/deaf child/young person (c/yp) may not be going in to school because of the coronavirus pandemic. If your child/young person is finding remote learning difficult, try these ideas they may help.

Talk to your child's teacher

- Do you and your child know how to find the work on the computer or website or email? Ask the teacher to explain what to do.
- Can your c/yp hear/see/ read/understand the information or tasks and activities? Tell the teacher if not.
- Ask your c/yp what works well for them. What do they think helps? Video clips with subtitles, pictures of what to do? Pictures to explain new words and vocabulary? Tell the school so they know what helps your child.
- Ask for handouts to be sent before the online lessons and activities, this will give you and your c/yp time to look, talk about and be prepared before for the virtual session.
- We are sending advice to all schools about making lessons accessible for deaf children. If you want a copy please contact your Teacher of the Deaf

Online lessons

- Use a quiet room. Turn off the radio, turn off the TV or washing machine so your c/yp can hear. Check there is not too much background noise.
- Put live captions on if this helps. **Remember** live captions are not always accurate, you can also download Otter app. (available on Apple/Android) which may give more accurate subtitles.
- Make sure your c/yp can see the person speaking. "Pin" the speaker; this will help make sure that they can see the person's face to lipread and see facial expressions.
- Remember to mute the microphone when your c/yp is not talking and turn on the microphone when they speak.

Access to equipment

- If your c/yp does not have a computer, laptop or tablet like an iPad and they need one to access to online lessons, please let your child's school know and ask if they can provide one.
- Talk to the Teacher of the Deaf if you think that using a radio aid such as Roger touchscreen or pen may help your c/yp to access online lessons and make it better to listen.
- Family Fund – you may be able to apply for a grant to help to fund equipment you may need. <https://www.familyfund.org.uk/>

Checking in

- Keep in contact with your child's teacher to discuss how your child is managing remote learning and to talk about any problems you have.



