

Remote education FAQs

The live lesson isn't at a convenient time for my family - is it ok to miss it?

Yes - the mix of live and pre-recorded lessons has been created to ensure flexibility for families. If the lesson has a pre-recorded element, use that to support completion of the work if you can't attend the live lesson. Alternatively, a recording of the live lesson will be posted after the session and that can be used to support independent learning.

How do I start the live learning call?

There is a google meet link in the top left of each google classroom. Just click on the link. The teacher will need to be already logged in for the call to connect.

I couldn't finish the work in the lesson time - how do I catch up?

As long as you work hard for 55 minutes, listen to the teacher live and / or pre-recorded elements and do your best, stop at the end of the lesson time - unless you would like to continue to finish your work.

The lesson isn't live, I've looked at the work and think I already can complete the task without watching the video - shall I miss out the video?

No - the video will contain technical vocabulary, links to prior and future learning, feedback from previous lessons and explanations which in doing the task alone will not be apparent. Much of the learning is in the teacher explanations rather than the activity.

How is progress checked?

Assessment is carried out during the lesson with the use of the virtual whiteboards. In addition, teachers will check the work submitted in every lesson and will use the lesson outcomes to inform future planning and provide whole class feedback. This means that key elements to the learning where misconceptions arise can be re-modelled and further input provided. To check that learning has been embedded, teachers will set mini-assessments - generally Google quizzes - to ensure the academic progress of all pupils is being accurately tracked.

I am not confident speaking in front of the class. Is there another way I can communicate with you?

Your teacher will let you know the alternatives for communicating. This may be through the Google meet chat function or by writing a message on your whiteboard. If you feel confident talking with fewer children on the call, wait until the initial live input is finished and some children have left - you can show you want to speak by clicking on 'raise a hand'.

Videos are not playing properly on my child's computer.

Using a different web browser can help with this. We recommend using google chrome as it works well with google classroom. This can be installed for free on most computers. Move closer to your router if the videos are slow / not loading etc.

How can I support my child's mental health?

It is beneficial to increase time outside (within the guidance for daily exercise) and limit screen time when your children are not completing their remote education. Simply spending time together as a family or completing practical tasks will help.

Is there any way for the computer to read to pupils and for pupils to dictate answers?

Yes there is a google chrome extension which will help read aloud the text on their screen. Google docs also has a built in dictation feature. Information on this can be found here.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0-SST9XAx2I&feature=youtu.be>

Is there homework?

Yes. Follow the instructions of your teachers - you will be set Hegarty Maths and Accelerated Reader quizzing tasks through English and Maths teachers. They will let you know the expectations. In Key Stage 3 - the expectation for Tassomai quizzing in English, Maths & Science at least 4 times a week is the same as always.

What is whiteboard.fi?

Whiteboard.fi is an online resource which allows the teacher to see the child's work in real time - this is used generally in the early stages of the lesson to check for understanding and give feedback where necessary.

How do I use whiteboard.fi?

The teacher will put a link to the whiteboard in the Google classroom assignment. It is important your child clicks on this link rather than 'googles' whiteboard.fi as the link will contain a code to a specific virtual classroom meaning their work can be shared with the teacher. You can write on the board either using a text box or virtual pen with your mouse / mouse pad - the icons for this are very similar to MS Word.

I can't see what is on the teacher's board.

The teacher can see all the boards, the child can only see theirs and the teacher's - they can switch between the two using the 'toggle' button at the top and middle of the page.

Why am I stuck in my previous lesson's whiteboard?

Each lesson will have its own whiteboard for you to use. When you finish a lesson you need to go to settings (the cog in the top right corner) and select 'close room'. You can then click on the link to the whiteboard of your next lesson.

Will I do all my work on whiteboard.fi?

No - most of your work will still be done on Google docs shared with you in your Google classroom - the whiteboards are there to instantly show your teacher where further input may be needed (a form of assessment).