

Top 10 Tips for remote teaching & learning in primary school teachers

Whether you're delivering one of our new Lifewise remote lessons or using other resources, here's a guide with all of the best practice tips to help you deliver great lessons online for your children.

1. Cyber safety – before teaching pupils online, check the content you'll be sharing with your School Leadership Team. Know the school's Safeguarding Policy, Code of Conduct regulations and Remote Learning Guidelines (where available) to protect yourself, pupils and parents. Ensure parents are clear about what remote teaching will look like for their child and what they'll be expected to see and do and remind them about the importance of activating online parental controls/filters on devices used by pupils.

2. Recordings vs live streaming – if you record content or send lesson links, pupils can access these in their own time, at their own pace, decreasing the frustration of internet drops when watching live. Recorded content may allow teachers to make use of existing material and these could then become

future remote learning resources. Secure live streaming platforms can be effective and powerful too when used sparingly. Check your school's preference regarding live or recorded delivery methods first.

3. Build an online rapport – hearing your voice or seeing your familiar face will be reassuring for many pupils. It may actually increase their engagement with learning and help to foster and maintain good relationships. Short pre-recorded clips can be used to say hello, share a timetable of activities with your class or remind pupils that they can ask you for help (have a secure system in place for this communication avoiding personal numbers and addresses).

4. Short and sweet! – keep lessons to around 15 minutes, making more impact. It may increase focus and attention and make lessons faster for pupils to download and get learning!

5. Review resources – check your resources before pupils use them making sure, wherever possible, that they're accessible to all members of the class, both online and offline and that they can be viewed on Smartphones, laptops or other devices.

6. **Routine and repetition** – many pupils may feel reassured and more comfortable about online learning if they know that they can expect a daily structure or format to their lessons.

7. **Ground rules** – ensure pupils and parents know what the school's expectations of remote teaching and learning are in advance. Set ground rules eg: everyone has their audio muted and/or raises their hand to indicate that they wish to speak when live streaming or suggest a dress code (no pyjamas!). Remind pupils that they need to be in a quiet place to join the live stream and ensure parents know that it's not acceptable for them to interrupt the teacher whilst they're teaching or for siblings or family members to join lessons. Have prepared, school-endorsed ways to deal with problems should any arise.

8. **Be specific** – let your pupils know what lessons or activities you've planned for them, where to find them and how to access them. Give clear instructions and offer ready activities at the start of the day. If possible, check in with pupils at the beginning and end of the 'school' day as this routine may also help with attendance and pupil well-being.

9. **Pupil feedback** – pupils enjoy getting feedback about their work. Be clear, concise, helpful and polite to encourage pupils to continue learning and to avoid written misinterpretations.

10. **Teacher feedback** – be open and tell pupils if this is a new way of teaching for you and tell them that you're learning alongside them. Ask them to help you make your lessons even more dynamic by completing a questionnaire, after 2 – 3 weeks of teaching, to let you know what they've enjoyed, what they've found too easy or too difficult and if they've any suggestions for what else they would like to learn. Practice makes perfect!

We hope this helps.

Please let us know what you think by sharing your thoughts on one of the social platforms. It would be great to say hi 😊

