



Department
for Education

Home education: tips for parents

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Parents are keen to help support their child with home education. However, it is sometimes difficult to know where to start.

Our [list of online resources for home education](#) offers a range of high-quality resources that you can draw upon to help your child learn best at home.



Tips to support home education

Alongside the resources, here are 6 handy tips to support and guide your child's home education:

1. Keep it simple

Aim to support your child's education with a small number of high-quality resources that you can keep coming back to as part of a weekly routine. This familiarity will help both you and your child get to grips with the challenge of home education with greater confidence.

2. Find your home education routines

Consistent routines are important for supporting behaviour and creating a new rhythm for home education. You could share [this video on supporting routines](#) with your child. Talk to them to help them plan their new routines and share the strategies you are using at home too.

3. Look for the positives

When your child is engaging with home education, try and catch them doing things right and praise this behaviour. Celebrate their successes, whether that is:

- concentrating well
- reading skilfully
- working hard on a tricky science activity

4. Encourage planning and reflection

A helpful study tip is to talk through with your child a '5-minute plan', before they begin an activity, to try and make sure they understand what they need to do.

5. Support your child to manage their own education

After you have decided upon a high-quality resource, support your child to get organised and to best manage their time. Talk to them about:

- how long they may need to complete a task
- what resources may be required
- how confident they feel about the task

6. Encourage your child to talk about what they are studying

Every child will gain from talking about their education and positively sharing your interest. For older children in particular, encouragement and interest is more important than any direct involvement in what they are studying. You could use the [TRUST technique](#) to help you talk with your child about their education.

(These tips have been adapted from the best available evidence from [Education Endowment Foundation guidance reports](#))

Children with SEND

Schools remain responsible for setting work for pupils with SEND during this period of school closures. Some schools may have already provided education materials, ideas and information, and will continue to do so in the coming weeks.

Additionally, your Local Authority may have a Local Offer signposting to useful resources. Research suggests that some approaches, such as [task checklists](#), may be particularly beneficial for pupils with SEND.

The tips for supporting home education above are particularly relevant for children with SEND, especially:

- reading together
- engaging in talk and encouragement
- structuring the day
- finding routines