



TOP TIPS FOR PARENTS/CARERS SUPPORTING UASC AT HOME

- **Make your child feel as secure and happy as possible in his/her environment.**
This is important for their well-being and will help them to be more open to learning a new language and adapting to new situations and environments.
- **Ensure you have regular conversations and communication with the child.** This will ensure that they are exposed to good language models. This also help them to feel that someone is interested in them and their life and that there is someone they can trust and rely on.
- **Remember to give them opportunities to speak their home language whether this is through conversations with friends, listening to radio or watching TV programmes.**
Developing and maintaining their first language will help them in their acquisition of English. A secure first language is very important as this forms the basis for learning any new language and also ensure they do not lose their identity or culture.
- **Encourage the child to talk about programmes they have watched.**
This will give them an opportunity to practise their English and in turn will help develop their English language skills.
- **Try and ensure that the child is involved in all aspects of family life i.e. sitting and watching TV with the family, playing games, cooking, cleaning, daily chores, etc.**
This will help ensure that they feel they are included and are part of the family and will also help them to learn about daily life in the home and expectations.
- **It is important for him/her to feel included and all efforts should be made to ensure that the child is not alone in their room for long periods of time without communication or social interaction with the family.**
Again, it is important that they are made to feel as if they are a member of the household and that this is their home as this will have a significant impact on their mental well-being and feeling secure which in turn will have an impact on their ability to be open to learning.



LEARNING AT HOME (COVID-19)

- Try and maintain as normal a school routine as possible by ensuring that the child has a structured routine for bedtime, waking up, breakfast, starting learning, breaks, etc. They should be encouraged to complete all tasks set within the time frames given to maintain stability and structure. This will ensure their continued focus and mental well-being as children need structure to progress and learn.
- If possible, try and allocate a specific space in the house where the child can sit and do their school work on a daily basis in peace and quiet without too much distraction. This will help to ensure they have the correct setting to learn and progress with as little disruption as possible.
- Digital devices such as laptops, desktop, tablet or smartphone can help children learn however it is important to ensure that usage of such devices is monitored. More advice on this is available from: <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/>
- There are many educational websites which may be useful for use with your child. Please find below some suggestions which may be helpful:
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>
<https://www.sparknotes.com/>
http://www.bristol.ac.uk/arts/exercises/grammar/grammar_tutorial/index.htm

When it comes to learning English language many English language teaching organisations already offer a lot of resources, available for free, during the school closures. Most of those educational exercises include automatic checking and involve animations, songs and stories, which make learning attractive for children. Please use the following links to find some useful websites for learning English from home:

<https://learnenglishteens.britishcouncil.org/>
<https://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/>
<http://www.onestopenglish.com/esol/> (all resources on the site are free to access until 30 June 2020).

- Wherever possible, you should try and listen to the child reading and try to discuss text as much as possible to promote language and understanding. It would also be beneficial if sometimes you could read to the child so that they have an opportunity to listen and learn how to read and pronounce words. This will help develop communication, understanding and comprehension. Reading is key to all areas of learning.