

Kingsford Community School: Teaching Online - Helpful tips!

1. **Keep in touch with your team** to share best practice and collaborate on planning and resources to ensure workload is balanced and sustainable.
2. **Create a culture of warmth and positivity** in your online classroom. Greet students by name when they sign in, praise them for their achievements and celebrate whole class success.
3. **Establish good habits and routines:** as we know in our physical classrooms, students respond well to routines and familiarity. Try to reassure students by starting the lesson following the school's customary structured approach to lesson planning, i.e. through a Do now, retrieval quiz or engaging video clip.
4. **Be realistic in terms of your expectations of what can be done remotely:** excessive amounts of resources and preparing every lesson from scratch are not sustainable. Use the wide variety of existing online resources available on the schools VLE and more broadly to assist your planning, and share as much as you can amongst your subject teams.
5. **Keep it simple:** if students are learning new content they may find this particularly difficult under the circumstances. Some may not have fully developed effective independent study skills and will benefit from an approach that is staged, specific in content, and that which provides meaningful feedback to help them on their learning journey.
6. **Motivate and engage students by praising and rewarding their efforts.**
7. **Ensure all students can contribute to the lesson:** be mindful that a number of students may be accessing the live lesson on a mobile phone and therefore will be limited in how they can respond in the chat box. Allowing these students to switch on their mic and contribute orally will ensure your lessons are as accessible as possible.
8. **Consider and be mindful of disadvantaged students.** These students may well have limited access to resources, not have reliable internet or technology, a lack of parental support and limited space to work in. Factor these issues into how you plan your lessons.

9. **Praise, praise, praise!** Use a range of strategies to praise and reward students' engagement with remote learning. This could include a personal email or nomination for an assembly award.

Recognising achievement and success in the learning and progress of your students is vital in engaging and motivating them as well as enabling them to feel connected to you and their school community.

With acknowledgements to [Kingsford Community School](#)

[Teaching Online. January 2021](#)
