



Robert Barclay Academy

Education for a changing world

Supporting your child's learning at home

These are unprecedented times and we want to support you, the parent or carer, in continuing the learning process for your child. Staff, students, parents and friends of RBA: we are all part of the RBA family and by supporting each other, we know that our students will continue to thrive.

1 Edulink is the centre-point for all work we are setting

www.edulinkone.com or search for Edulink in your app store.

The school's code is RBA. Parents and students have their own individual login names and passwords. If, for whatever reason, you or your child cannot access this app or require new passwords, please contact technicalassistance@robertbarclayacademy.co.uk



2 Routines are essential

Whilst the school is closed, it will help your child to have fixed hours where they complete their learning, and we are now reliant on parents and carers to encourage this as much as they can. Consider a schedule, which starts at 9am and does 2 hours in the morning, then another 2 hours after lunch, for example.



3 Support your child's daily planning

They will receive up to five new tasks a day and so, if they aren't careful, they might fall behind. Help them to do the right amount each day and tick them off on Edulink, so they can see what still needs to be done. Also, don't let your child work too much. If they do their 4/5 hours and haven't got everything done, it's OK to roll things over or tell the teacher (by email) that your child ran out of time.

4 Reading will always benefit

With an ever-increasing temptation to spend time in front of screens, please remember that your child's literacy depends on their ability to read different things. If you don't have access to books at home and cannot purchase one online, please consider asking a family or friend to deliver one to your doorstep. There are also things to read which are available online if they are needed.



5 Sending in work for marking

You can always email work (or photos/scans of work) to your child's teacher following this pattern:

Initial+surname@robertbarclayacademy.co.uk (so Mr J Smith would be jsmith@robertbarclayacademy.co.uk . Staff may also welcome work though other means (work postbox on FOLDR and SEESAW, for example)



6 Keeping work organised

Once a piece of work is done, this needs to be stored in a reliable way. Show your child how to organize files on a PC or, if printed, how to put work in a ring binder with dividers etc. These skills may seem easy to adults, but are often missing in younger people who primarily use mobile devices



7 Other things to do if work is finished

There are so many online options available to families. Here are a few:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>

www.ted.com

www.senecalearning.com



www.hegarty.com



PIXL English
(via Edulink
Links button



8 Ask for support from the school

Teachers are working hard to set work which will keep your child's education on track. If you have any questions regarding this, contact them via email or email the headteacher on head@robertbarclayacademy.co.uk

9 Establish a space for your child to work

Your child might be working at home for some time to come, so think of ways to make it distraction free, comfortable, with enough space to lay books out and use a PC/tablet. If more than one child needs the space/PC, establish a working schedule.

10 Take time apart within the house

Children will need their own space as much as they always did. It's OK for them to take time away from the desk, as long as they get their studies done during the day.

11 Enjoy break times together

School breaktimes are social times which children enjoy. Consider ways of making your home breaktimes social, rather than going to separate rooms. Eat together, play a game, watch TV, go out for a walk together.

12 Reward and praise them for adapting

Children have to face this new challenge head on and, if they do manage to keep learning, they deserve praise and, if possible, reward.

13 Nudge them if work is not being done

We don't want family life to become strained, so arguments about school work are to be avoided. A better approach would be to remind them that being educated is important and whilst everyone in the nation is doing their bit, your child's responsibility is to keep learning. Others are, so they won't want to fall behind.

Consider reducing work slots to manageable, shorter chunks over a longer period of the day. The school day has just become a flexi-time arrangement, which your child might enjoy!

14 Teach your child some life basics

We are sometimes surprised in school (or on our trips) by things that some children cannot do: tell the time on a clock with hands, make a cup of tea, tie laces, spell basic words, write an address on a letter, peel

a potato, make a bed. This could be a great use of any time you now have with your child.

15 Look after your own, and your family's, well-being.

There are lots of online resources to help you manage your wellbeing during this time:-

NHS advice on mental wellbeing: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/stress-anxiety-depression/improve-mental-wellbeing/>

Education Support Partnership: <https://www.educationsupport.org.uk/> Free advice and support at any time, with anything; not necessarily directly education related.

Mind - https://www.mind.org.uk/information-support/coronavirus-and-your-wellbeing?utm_medium=organic&utm_source=email&utm_campaign=general%20supporter%20email&utm_content=information%20page&dm_i=CZC,6SOWI,V1541W,R795X,1 who give specific COVID-19 support ideas.

Zoom – <https://zoom.us/home?zcid=2478> A free video chat service

Twitter and TES – www.tes.co.uk For resources to save you reinventing the wheel – somewhere, out there, someone else has already done it! Parents can join for free as teachers and access all the resources that we sometimes use.

A reminder that we are all in this together and you are most definitely not alone.

#RBAfamily



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