

50 Top Tips

1. Screen time - all day is too much. Break - balcony, garden, yard or even an open door/window. Do not overdo on-line learning.
2. Build in social contact and down time - morning break, lunch break and afternoon break.
3. Communicate with teachers and friends. Young people will miss their teachers and friends.
4. Virtual quizzes, bingo and virtual coffee breaks.
5. Do not try to fully re-create school. You will learn differently at home.
6. If you are following your timetable and cannot meet the end of lesson time readjust a little e.g. you may need to spend more time on English as you find it more difficult.
7. Parents working from home are doing just that. They do not have time to monitor you all day.
8. Use variety: Podcasts / Radio / TV / Film / Free on-line books to understand characters in History, the plot of a play in English Literature.
9. Spend the additional time you have being observant e.g. nature, your surroundings.
10. Create a space.
11. Write letters to friends and family.
12. Hone your ICT skills. Use spare time to enhance your ICT.
13. If you discover a topic of interest expand your knowledge and share your learning with a sibling, a friend on-line, a parent during meal times e.g. when undertaking my Geography work on coasts I became interested on the impact of global warming.
14. Pick a classic story. Read the story but also read about the life of that person who wrote the story, the place they lived in, what life was like at that time etc. Make it a real cross-curricular approach.
15. Choose a year e.g. 1914.
 - outbreak of war
 - impact on society
 - what it was like to join the army
 - what people ate
 - what were their house like
 - what type of clothes they wore
 - how schools operated
16. Do one of our competitions e.g. english, history, tech etc.
17. Choose a piece of art. Understand the piece, when it was created, the life and work of the artist, the historic context.

18. Be creative with your workspace room, book, shelf etc.
19. Create your own exercise regime.
20. Create/adapt recipes to suit what is in the fridge or cupboard.
21. Learn to play a game that is sitting in your cupboard, e.g. scrabble, anagrams.
22. Create on-line quizzes about what you have learnt in a subject for your friends.
23. Take part in on-line language groups.
24. Pick up a dictionary or thesaurus and expand your subject specific terminology. On-line varieties available.
25. Write a daily diary.
26. Research career options.
27. Use time to create something - practice your food technology skills with any available ingredients. Get some stock or bouillon and learn how to make various soups.
28. Research other pandemics in history e.g. Spanish flu, the black death.
29. Consider all the data which is being produced regarding Covid-19.
30. Start to really read a decent newspaper (hard copy or digital).
31. Really understand what you like and what you are good at.
32. Learn a new skill linked to textiles e.g. embroidery, knitting, crochet.
33. Practice regularly the bits of maths or science you find difficult not the things you can do easily.
34. Keep a "training diary" for your chosen sport. Subscribe to a magazine for a favourite sport.
35. Make creative Easter cards or ordinary cards for elderly family members. Send them something nice.
36. Pick up a bible and read a psalm a day. They only take a few minutes. There are 150 of them.
37. Do a virtual tour of a historic building you are interested in.
38. Do a "safe" swap with family or neighbours of novels/stories.
39. Do some "safe" gardening for an elderly person.
40. Follow on-line services at your local church, on-line gym etc.
41. Contact all the friends you may have lost contact with.
42. If the weather is nice - walk, exercise etc. outdoors staying "safe" in whatever space you have.
43. See what needs fixing, mending or re-vamping in your room or home.
44. Practice a musical instrument each day.
45. Take turns to create menus, write ingredients out and method in a personal recipe book.
46. Research disease transmitted and also research how to reduce disease transmission.

47. Ring up someone every day and talk to them about what you have learnt that day.
48. Discover a new household skill e.g. how to iron.
49. Write a travelogue about places you would like to visit and why.
50. Write a
 - poem
 - short play
 - song
 - letter