

Central Region Schools Trust Home Learning Statement

At Central Region Schools Trust we fully appreciate how challenging this lockdown period is for all families. We understand that for many juggling work, childcare and now facilitating education is extremely difficult. We know that many will be dealing with sick or vulnerable relatives and on top of this may have serious financial concerns. Our schools have community at the heart of their ethos, and staff will do all that they can to support families, so that children can continue to thrive and learn away from school, but we are not seeking to provide a school away from school and we do not expect parents to do so. We are in this together.

Our Educational Continuity Guidance for teachers and parents has this at the forefront of the planning so that in these exceptional times pupils are supported and can access education.

The majority of work provided will give opportunities to recap prior learning and deepen understanding whilst supporting key skills or will be 'extra' curricular. Maths and English/literacy tasks will be available, with some recommended and some optional tasks to be accessed as home circumstance allows. Reading is strongly encouraged for children, and time to read is extremely important for younger children. Creative learning experiences will be supported with suggestions and resources for projects and activities across all year groups. Parents may feel they have to create a minute by minute schedule- particularly for the younger children- but the reality is they will be balancing many competing priorities in confined spaces. We will provide resources to support structure and which will consolidate understanding and skills but we know that the utmost priority is for children to feel safe and reassured in difficult times. Going on safe walks (adhering to all guidance on social distancing): playing board games; projects for exploration within the confines of home, baking, painting, online ideas to support interest and curiosity are just as important as the academic resources, and we will seek to provide families with ideas.

For older students, some of whom have public examinations not much more than a year away, the tasks set and expected do resemble those in the school day, with adaption to enable successful completion in home circumstances. The student uptake and response to these so far has been phenomenal, with their motivation high. For current year 11, we will support them with transition tasks into our sixth forms, and for year 13's heading to university, the universities are publishing reading materials for students to immerse themselves in.

Every child in the country is in this boat and so we will do our utmost to reassure parents, support the most vulnerable and provide resources. How children will feel during this time will stay with them for longer than much of the content of the home learning.