



The Mall School

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Guide for parents on remote learning

The following guide explains how we will aim to support you and your son pastorally and educationally while we are working online. Thank you if you took the time during the autumn term to complete our survey on remote learning which we have used to inform the approach we are taking.

Thank you for your patience so far and for the many supportive comments regarding what we have put in place. However we ask you to appreciate that no amount of preparation will replicate the typical school day, and any attempt to provide educational continuity will be carried out with the aim of supporting parents in the education of your sons.

Online safety

Keeping children safe online can seem rather daunting for parents but try to think of it as you would road safety. Teaching children about road safety is giving them the tools and confidence to know how to look after themselves and behave safely when they are out and about on their own. From an early age we teach our children not to dash out into the road but find somewhere safe to cross. Online safety is the same.

The [Child Exploitation and Online Protection website](#) part of the UK National Crime Agency gives clear, straightforward guidance on staying safe online.

The [Net Aware website](#) produced by the NSPCC is excellent for explaining about social networks, apps and games. If you do not know what a meme or Tik Tok are then this is the site for you.

Just as we teach road safety in school so we have been teaching your sons about online safety. The following are the top tips we would like you to reinforce with your sons.

- Tell your parents if something happens online that upsets you or made you worried. They are not going to be cross.
- Do not share personal information with people online. Be invisible online. You must not tell anyone your name, address or date of birth even if you think you know them. Speak to your parents first before sharing this information.
- Behave online as you would in school and be the best version of yourself. Do not do anything online that you would not do at school.
- When your son is online try to have him working somewhere you can keep an eye on what he is doing.
- Have plenty of breaks from screen time. Get some exercise and fresh air.

We would be grateful if you would take the time to read the following school policies and share the relevant sections with your sons: [Remote teaching and learning](#); [Information and Communication Technology](#); [Email](#).

Online activities

Where relevant, boys have usernames and passwords for the following websites which they have been using in school. Your son's teacher will let him know if he needs to access any of these sites. If you are having problems logging on please contact the relevant member of staff below.

[Accelerated Reader](#)

Accelerated Reader for boys in Years 2 to 6 has comprehension quizzes and vocabulary tests on tens of thousands of children's books. Once a boy has finished his reading book he should take the relevant quiz. Boys should be aiming to complete a reading book and quiz every two weeks. Younger boys are completing a quiz weekly.

Contact Miss Challis, Head of English, academic@themallschool.org.uk if you have any questions.

[Bofa](#)

Boys in Year 5 and 6 have a BOFA login for tasks in English, maths, verbal and non-verbal reasoning. We would particularly encourage the boys to complete one of the Bofa reading comprehension tests each week which are an excellent way to develop their inference and deduction skills ready for their next school.

Contact Miss Challis, Head of English, academic@themallschool.org.uk if you have any questions.

[Education City](#)

Boys in Year Reception to Year 4 may be set weekly activities in English, maths, humanities or science using the Education City website. Parents have already been sent your son's log on details and a password. Contact the relevant class or subject teacher if you have any questions.

[Linguascope](#)

Boys in Years 4 to 5 are able to access activities in French on Linguascope.

Contact Mme Capell, Head of French, capellF@themallschool.org.uk if you have any questions.

[MyMaths](#)

Boys in Years 4 to 6 will either be set work to complete in MyMaths or can use it to revise topics they have been covering.

Contact Mr Miller, Head of Maths, pastoral@themallschool.org.uk if you have any questions.

[Times Table Rockstars](#)

Boys in Years 4 to 6 have access to the Times Table Rockstars website where they can practise their times tables and compete against other pupils at The Mall or around the world.

Contact Mr Miller, Head of Maths, pastoral@themallschool.org.uk if you have any queries.

[Hit the Button](#)

This an app which can be downloaded and used by all boys to practise their mental arithmetic skills. Boys can keep a record of how many questions they get right in two minutes for each of the four skills (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division) and then try to beat their personal best. Excellent mental arithmetic skills are the key to success in this subject.

Possible questions and answers

How will my child's progress be monitored?

Teachers will be monitoring the boys' online activities and will provide feedback for work that has been requested to be uploaded. Parents can email the relevant member of staff if they have any questions.

What if I have an issue with the online learning platforms?

If you have an IT issue you can email itsupport@themallschool.org.uk and a member of staff will aim

to respond to your query within 24 hours.

How can I support my child with reading?

Miss Challis, Head of English, has provided some [guidance for parents](#) on supporting boys with their reading. Please continue to listen to your son read as much as possible and share stories with him too.

What do I do if I cannot access the internet?

Please contact the school office to discuss this further reception@themallschool.org.uk or 020 8977 2523.