

Useful Home School Resources to use during Lockdown:

Literacy / numeracy:

- **Twinkl.ie**
Created by teachers, ideal for home education, it has lots of appealing games, stories, worksheets, etc. The Twinkle Go! section is free to access online during January and has lots of engaging interactive educational resources.
- **Irish education publishers**
If you have schoolbooks, the major publishers of schoolbooks - including Edco (edco.ie), Gill Education (gillexplore.ie) and CJ Fallon (cjfallon.ie) - have online education resources for primary and secondary students available including eBooks, podcasts, games and puzzles.
- **RTÉ's Home School Hub**
RTÉ's Home School Hub proved a big hit with students and parents during the previous school closures. Its subsequent Afterschool Hub has lots of great content. Programmes and activities can be played back on the RTÉ Player. There is also a wide archive of ideas, worksheets, and activities at rte.ie/learn.
- **BBC Bitesize (bbc.co.uk/bitesize)**
While tailored for the UK education system, there's a big crossover with our own and it's broken down by age range.
- **Khan Academy**
Nonprofit site that provides free video tutorials in maths and reading.
- **IXL.com**
Subscription-based learning experience that provides curriculum-aligned maths and English content from junior infants up to sixth year.
- **Storyberries.com**
This is a free, online collection of easy-to-read and beautifully illustrated stories, comics and poems for kids. You can select stories by theme.
- **handwritingpractice.net**
Whatever happened to the art of handwriting? This site lets you create custom handwriting practice worksheets.
- **Storylineonline.net**
Another award-winning children's literacy website, Storyline Online, streams videos featuring celebrated actors reading children's books alongside creatively produced illustrations.
- **<https://www.mathletics.com/>**
On this website you can select a class level and assign individual work for students. This site corrects all the

work done and gives the teacher an overview. When the teacher assigns work, students can't access the maths games until work is completed first.

Other useful websites for Literacy/Numeracy

- <https://www.getepic.com/> - Kids books and videos.
- <https://www.orchardtoys.com/> - Online link to free worksheets and downloads.
- <https://www.vooks.com/blog/2019/5/28/free-for-teachers> - Animated online stories for free.
- <http://www.readingrockets.org/article/82> - 103 Things to do before and after reading.
- <http://www.storybird.com/> – Make your own story book.
- <http://www.spellingcity.com/> – Tools to help with spellings.
- <http://www.fizzyfunnyfuzzy.com/index.php> - Great poetry for primary school children.
- http://www.bogglesworldesl.com/cloze_activities.htm - Cloze Activities to build vocabulary.
- <http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/> - Tablet Friendly E-books online for free.
- <http://www.littlemissteacher.com/2020/03/visual-literacy-challengesif-its.html> - Visual literacy activities.
- <https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/NumbersGalore-0-100-210588> - Worksheets on 1 - 100 number formation.
- <http://www.mangahigh.com/en-gb/games> – Manga High Maths Games (Fun Maths).
- <http://www.noetic-learning.com/mathdrill/> - Create Maths worksheets on any topic.
- <http://www.mathsmaster.org/> - Excellent Maths videos explaining a wide range of topics.
- <http://www.mathsisfun.com/> – Maths games covering a wide range of topics.
- <http://www.transum.org/Software/TablesMaster/> – Maths Game, how quick can you answer 20 times tables questions?

Gaeilge:

- Cúla4 (cula4.com)
This free Irish app from TG4 is aimed at two groups: Cúla4 na nÓg is aimed at under-sixes, while Cúla4 is aimed at older children. As well as TV shows, there are games and creativity sections.
- Cúla4 ar scoil
Home school program, similar to RTÉs Home School Hub through the medium of Gaeilge. You can watch the show every Monday to Thursday at 10am with repeats at 4pm or catch up at Cúla4.com.
- Cogg.ie (cogg.ie/bunchar-aiseanna/)
Is féidir cuardach a dhéanamh ar líne do na háiseanna atá ar fáil do theagasc na Gaeilge nó don teagasc trí Ghaeilge.
- Yoga 'As Gaeilge' (<https://rtejr.rte.ie/category/rtejr-blog/yoga/>)
Yoga activities through the medium of Gaeilge.

Picture Books as Gaeilge

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v8MT3mFjCAc> – An Garbhán.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=db8D_ryZMxA – Kipper.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Onb0kM-mWoY> – Bardal Feirmeora.

Other useful Gaeilge resources:

- Caoga/coaga (app) 1st and 2nd class
- Cúla caint app Infants
- <https://ccea.org.uk/learning-resources/feasta-focal>
- <https://ccea.org.uk/learning-resources/fuaimheanna-fonaic>

Physical education:

- Go Noodle (gonoodle.com)
Movement and mindfulness videos created by child development experts and used widely by teachers who say it is a great opportunity for kids to wake up their bodies, engage their minds and be their best.
- PE with Joe Wicks (<https://www.youtube.com/user/thebodycoach1>)
An indoor PE and movement lesson for each day with personal trainer Joe Wicks.
- Cosmic Kids Yoga (<https://www.youtube.com/user/CosmicKidsYoga>)
Yoga, mindfulness, and relaxation for kids. Interactive adventures which build strength, balance and confidence - and get kids into yoga and mindfulness early!
- Fun Dance Workouts on Youtube
Just Dance on YouTube (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G74_o_43_RQ)
Dance workout Fun2Bfit (<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNSIvwOMzpjSVitPGjyv>)
- Super Troopers (supertroopers.ie)
Super Troopers offers a health homework programme that encourages children and their families to live happier and more active lifestyles.
- *A list of games to play at home:*
Some useful links with activities to do at home and to help get moving!
<https://thedeliberatemom.com/indoor-physical-education-ideas/>
<https://www.athleticsireland.ie/news/social-distancing-long-jump-challenge>
<https://www.care.com/c/en-gb/stories/3981/8-movement-games-for-little-kids/>

Geography, History and Science:

- National Geographic Kids (kids.nationalgeographic.com):
Learn about science, geography and history.
- Nasa Kids' Club (nasa.gov/kidsclub):
Child-friendly resource where kids can learn about science and space.
- History, Geography and Science
Órlaith Ní Fhoghlú is a third-class teacher and she has put together activities and resources relating to the history, geography, and science curriculum on padlet.com/orlaithnifhoghlu/wqeiqvodvbl4.

- <http://www.kbears.com/ks1.html>
Website with everything from countries, animals, the sea, and dinosaurs. Aimed at younger classes but good for older classes too. Interactive and well animated.
- <http://www.timeforkids.com/>
Website that covers most major countries and continents with fact sheets, quizzes, and worksheets at all age levels.

Other useful websites for Science, History and Geography:

- <https://www.goodhousekeeping.com/life/travel/a31784720/bestvirtual-tours/> links to virtual museum and zoo tours around the world.
- <http://www.askaboutireland.ie/> – History and environmental site for Ireland.
- <http://www.exploratorium.edu/> – San Francisco Museum (Fun Science).
- <http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/interactive/> – BBC History resources.
- <http://www.crickweb.co.uk/ks2science.html> – Interactive resources for SESE strands divided into younger and older age groups.
- <http://education.usace.army.mil/clubhouse/science.cfm> – List of quick science experiments under various headings.
- <http://www.exploratorium.edu/snacks/snacksbysubject.html> – Lists of science experiments under different strand headings.
- <http://pbskids.org/zoom/printables/activities/> – List of science experiments under different headings.
- <http://www.kids-science-experiments.com/index.html> – Fun science experiments for kids.

Art/Music/Drama:

- <http://www.sfskids.org/>
Learn all about the instruments of the orchestra. Listen to the sounds of the different instrument and create a tune.
- <http://www.artistshelpingchildren.org/>
Lots of arts and crafts ideas, how to draw in different styles and contexts, colouring pages to do and loads more.
- <http://www.iamanartist.ie/>
Great art ideas that are incorporated with and linked to the Irish primary school curriculum.
- <http://www.artsonthemove.co.uk/>
Drama ideas for kids for kids of all ages to do.
- <http://www.teachnet.ie/ddonnelly/>
A website dedicated to learning about traditional Irish music.

Other useful websites for Art, Drama and Music

- <http://www.kinderart.com/> – Great art ideas for kids
- <http://www.funart4kids.blogspot.com/> – Art projects.
- <http://www.fingertipstv.com/> – Make and Do with videos.
- <http://www.artsconnected.org/toolkit/> - Exploring the art elements.
- <http://www.crayola.com/> – Crayola art ideas.
- <http://www.creatingmusic.com/> – Games, listen/learn about, play, and create music for all ages.
- <https://dabbledoomusic.com/p/parents-subscription-full-access> Dabbledoo; music course for your home.

Games/tests:

- Kahoot.com
Search from millions of existing games on any topic such as brain teasers, trivia of all sorts, news quizzes and science.

SEN specific resources:

All of the above resources can be tailored to suit the needs of any child but here are some resources that are specific to children with special educational needs! 😊

- SEN Teacher (senteacher.org)
This site has free special-needs teaching resources and learning materials. Its print tools allow you to create, adapt and share resources.
- <https://ncse.ie/online-resources>
During the time of school closure due to COVID 19, the National Council for Special Education prepared resources for parents and teachers to support home learning. These resources can also be used in the classroom.
- <https://www.seomraranga.com/links/sen-links/>
This link will offer suggestions of websites that parents can visit with a wide range of resources to compliment home school learning for children with special educational needs.

Coding:

- Scratch (scratch.mit.edu)
Learn to program interactive games, stories, and animations.
- <https://codespark.com/>
Online coding for 5-9-year olds.

Covid 19:

- <https://www.rte.ie/news/coronavirus/2020/0306/1120692-news2daycoronavirus/>
A link to an interview to explain what the coronavirus (COVID-19) is to children.
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KirHm_sYfi
A link to a youtube experiment about germs and handwashing which you can try at home too!