

Online Resources Guide for Secondary Schools and Families

All information correct as of March 2020.

Free Resources from Medway Libraries

- 12,000+ **eBooks and eAudiobooks** for all ages – access via our website, the Libby app (Overdrive app if using a Kindle), or <https://medway.overdrive.com/> There is also an additional selection of audiobooks on RBDigital (see below).
- 130+ **eMagazines**- including *Radio Times, BBC Good Food, Empire, Mojo, BBC History Magazine, Playstation, Top Gear, Match of the Day, Rugby World, National Geographic (including Kids and Little Kids editions), The Economist, Horse & Hound, Gardener's World, Attitude, GQ, Vogue, Cosmopolitan, Country Living, New Scientist, Q, and Viz*. Our selection includes magazines on parenting, gardening, homes and interiors, nature, photography, art, sport, entertainment, craft, travel, family history, science, cars, trains, fitness, food, children's, technology, and more. Access via our website, the RBDigital App, or <http://www.rbdigital.com/medway/>. Please note there are also lots of eMagazines on Pressreader, e.g. *Beano* (see Newspapers).
- 1,500+ **eComics**, including **manga**, *The Witcher, Star Trek, X-Men, Umbrella Academy* and Marvel titles such as *the Avengers, Black Panther, Guardians of the Galaxy, Deadpool, Thor, Loki*, and more. There are also children's titles and Disney comics, *Popeye, My Little Pony* and more. Access via our website, the RBDigital App, or <http://www.rbdigital.com/medway/>.
- **Newspapers** such as *The Guardian, The Independent, The Kent Messenger, Newsweek* and *The Daily Telegraph*, as well as a selection of children's titles. Access via our website, the Pressreader app, or <https://www.pressreader.com/catalog>.
- Family history website **Ancestry**. Visit <https://medway.spydus.co.uk> and sign in with your library card. Ancestry can be accessed via the drop down box from your name on the top right or in My Account on the left hand side.
- Online reference resources, such as **Encyclopaedia Britannica** (Junior, Student and Adult), Access to Research and Oxford Reference Online. The full links and access can be found here:
https://www.medway.gov.uk/info/200181/libraries/68/online_reference_library

With a Medway Libraries card number and PIN, you and your family can access all the above for free. To join the library and gain instant online access, please sign up here: https://www.medway.gov.uk/info/200181/libraries/53/join_the_library/1

When Medway Libraries reopen, please pop by any of our libraries to collect your physical card.

If you already have an account, but have forgotten your PIN, please click here: <https://medway.spydus.co.uk/cgi-bin/spydus.exe/PGM/WPAC/CCOPT/RPWD/1>

Links to all the services and resources above can also be found on the Medway Libraries website (<https://www.medway.gov.uk/libraries>). They can be accessed on a computer, smartphone, tablet and many eReaders.

If you need help or have any queries, please contact Emily Maycock at emily.maycock@medway.gov.uk.

*Please also note that **all physical library items are now loaned for 56 days and will not accrue any fines** (or DVD and audiobook recharges). Cards due to expire have also been bumped on to 2021, so nothing should interfere with your access to our online content.*

Free Online Resources

Booktrust Bookfinder

A brilliant resource to help young people find new titles.
<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/books-and-reading/bookfinder/>

Reading Agency

For resources and booklists, including Reading Well, a resource for mental health.
<https://readingagency.org.uk/young-people/>

BBC

For a full run-down of how the BBC will support the nation during the school shutdown:
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/mediacentre/latestnews/2020/bbc-keeping-nation-informed-educated-entertained>

BBC Bitesize:

Comprehensive educational and wellbeing content for 3-11, 11-16 and 16+ year olds:
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>

BBC Supermovers:

Fun curriculum-linked resources to get students moving while they learn.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/supermovers>

BBC Fact or Fake:

Resources on fake news, suitable for all ages:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/tags/zr2yscw/fact-or-fake>

Collins Connect

Learning and teaching resources for a range of subjects including English, maths and science at all levels (primary and secondary), as well as international curricula.

On www.collins.co.uk they also provide free resources and support to parents who have children at home. It includes more than 300 e-books from its Big Cat reading programme, activity sheets, a times tables practice tool, revision and PDF downloads of many of its titles. Collins is adding resources daily to the site.

In addition, Collins will be enabling free access to textbooks in e-book format for schools that are already using its titles in the classroom so that pupils can continue their learning at home.

<https://collins.co.uk/pages/support-learning-at-home>

Publishers

For author interviews, recommended books, activity sheets and quizzes:

<https://www.egmont.co.uk/childrens-websites/>

<https://www.puffinschools.co.uk/>

<https://www.penguin.co.uk/articles/children.html>

<https://clubs-kids.scholastic.co.uk/>

<https://peters.co.uk/100-books-for-parents>

Sir Linkalot

Award-winning app Sir Linkalot uses animations to teach children clever tricks to improve spelling and grammar. It has the backing of lexicographer Susie Dent and is free for the duration of the outbreak.

<https://www.sirlinkalot.org/>

Authorfy

Authorfy brings readers and writers closer together through interactive video masterclasses, fun downloadable activities, and exciting after school club resources.

<https://authorfy.com/>

James Dyson Foundation

44 engineering and science challenges from the engineers at Dyson. For children aged 7+.
https://www.jamesdysonfoundation.co.uk/content/dam/pdf/JDF_with%20cover%20challenge-cards_DIGITAL.pdf?fbclid=IwAR13kslwXKSdCDuFgJxJDwENHqHb8E3Nq_Wwq1dlqgudd4AVRcpobwcqa98

Ask A School Librarian

A place to ask a question if you are a parent or teacher looking for resources.
<https://www.greatschoolibraries.org.uk/askalibrarian>

The Science Museum

A range of free learning games.
<https://www.sciencemuseum.org.uk/games-and-apps>

Creative Bug

Craft lessons, from knitting to jewellery-making, drawing and origami.
<https://www.creativebug.com/>

British Science Week

Activity packs to download for early years, primary school and secondary school children around the theme of "Diverse Planet"
<https://www.britishscienceweek.org/plan-your-activities/activity-packs/>

Scratch

A range of coding tutorials and activities.
<https://scratch.mit.edu/ideas>

TED-ed

"Lessons worth sharing" from teachers around the globe.
<https://ed.ted.com/>

Sumdog

Personalised maths practise for children aged 6-14 through games.
<https://pages.sumdog.com/>

ICT Games

Free ICT games, made by a UK teacher.

<http://ictgames.co.uk/>

Virtual Museum Tours

<https://www.travelandleisure.com/attractions/museums-galleries/museums-with-virtual-tours>

Joe Wicks

Live PE lessons hosted on YouTube, and a playlist workouts for kids to do at home.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAxW1XT0iEJo0TYIRfn6rYQ>

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLyCLOpd4VxBvPHOpzoEk5onAEbq40g2-k>

NewsGuard

A browser extension and app which has been designed to combat fake news. Users have access to ratings and reviews of website reliability, integrated directly in their social media feeds and search engine results. The developer has made it free for the duration of the virus, has a dedicated coronavirus misinformation tracking centre.

<https://www.newsguardtech.com/>

Openlearn

Free taster courses aimed at those considering Open University but everyone can access it. Adult level, but some e.g. nature and environment courses could well be of interest to young people.

<https://www.open.edu/openlearn/>

Blockly

Learn computer programming skills - fun and free.

<https://blockly.games>

Duolingo

Learn languages for free. Web or app.

<https://www.duolingo.com>

Mystery Science

Free science lessons.

<https://mysteryscience.com>

Crash Course

YouTube videos on a range of subjects.

<https://thecrashcourse.com>

iDEA Awards

Online digital enterprise award scheme.

<https://idea.org.uk>

Tinkercad

Tinkercad is a free, easy-to-use app for 3D design, electronics, and coding.

<https://www.tinkercad.com>

Woodland Trust: Nature Detectives

Outdoor activities and educational resources. Many can be done in a garden.

<https://naturedetectives.woodlandtrust.org.uk/naturedetectives/>

British Council

Excellent resources for exploring other cultures, and English language learning.

<https://www.britishcouncil.org/school-resources/find>

Big History Project

Big History is a free social studies course that spans 13.8 billion years. It weaves insights from many disciplines to form a single story that helps us better understand people, civilizations, and how we are connected to everything around us. Aimed at secondary school aged students. Includes activities and badges.

<https://www.bighistoryproject.com/home>

Geography Games

Free geography games.

<https://world-geography-games.com/world.html>

The Artful Parent

Free art activities.

<https://www.facebook.com/artfulparent/>

Toy Theater

Free educational online games.

<https://toytheater.com/>