Resources for Learning and Reading Online



Hello

This resource contains a general list of sites that promote Reading for Pleasure and Home Learning, alongside pages of specific resources for each subject area. These lists include sites used for Teaching and Learning but are predominantly resources designed to supplement the curriculum and enrich students' understanding and enjoyment of their studies.

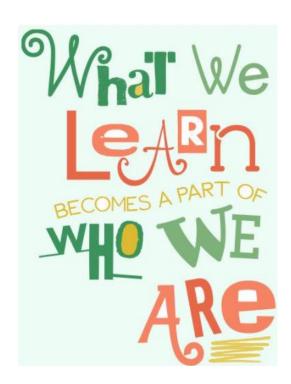
All the resources listed here are currently free to access, at least for a free trial, apart from BBC television on iPlayer, which requires you to have a TV license in order to watch.

Many thanks to Ms Hill, Librarian/Learning Resource Manager at Kings Langley Secondary School and Mrs Wendy Walker, Librarian at Ratcliffe College for making their resources available to share.

Best wishes Jane Griffiths LRC Manager Alsager School

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Public Libraries

The public library is richly equipped to support students with both reading for pleasure and research.

You can join your local library free if you live, work or study in the area. You can register online:



Cheshire East Public Library – register <u>here</u>.



Staffordshire Public Library – register <u>here</u>.



Stoke-on-Trent Public Library – register here.

Key Resources & Services

EBOOKS

BorrowBox is a free app which provides Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent library members with access to a collection of over 11000 ebooks and audiobooks.

Cheshire East libraries use RBDigital ebooks.











ONLINE RESOURSES

Magzta – over 8000 magazines RBDigital – for over 130 magazines

Credo Reference – resource for research projects

Newsbank - access to all UK newspapers

World Book Online – articles from encyclopaedias

Oxford English Dictionary – online version of the full dictionary





Resources for the Coronavirus Crisis

- NHS clear information and instructions from the health service
- **Gov.uk** the official UK government page for information on the crisis
- **BBC News** breaking news, fact checks, and ongoing reporting
- Mind guidance from the mental health charity on how to take care of your wellbeing during this crisis



Resources for Study Skills and Wellbeing



- <u>CrashCourse</u> entertaining educational videos, including series on Media Literacy, Study Skills, and Navigating Digital Information
- A Soft Murmur background noise to aid concentration





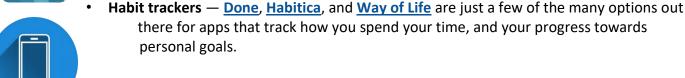
 NHS Apps Library — a collection of wellbeing and health apps recommended and used by the NHS, including lots of free options



- f.lux this computer program aims to reduce eye strain from screen time by dimming and reducing blue light according to the time of day, helping you sleep.
- Trello and Todoist popular apps for to-do lists and time management



- Workflow Timer an iPhone app for structuring your time
- Flora a cute app to help you stay focussed while you work

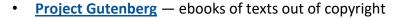


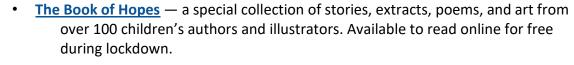




Resources for Reading for Pleasure









- <u>Librivox</u> audiobooks of texts out of copyright, read by volunteers
- PressReader access to magazines with your library card
- RBDigital access to ebooks with your Chesire East library card
- BorrowBox access to ebooks with your Staffs/SOT library card



ET

- BookTrust Book Finder find out about books in a wide variety of genres
- Goodreads students can write their own reviews of books they have read, find book lists, take part in quizzes and discover new books to read







 <u>ePlatform</u> — online Library bringing ebooks & audiobooks to students wherever they are. The username is their school username and password: 'alsager'. For assistance with logging in, contact Mrs Griffiths in the LRC.

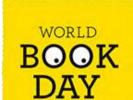




- <u>Tor.com</u> science fiction and fantasy
- <u>Uncanny Magazine</u> science fiction and fantasy



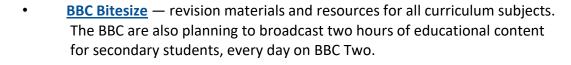
- <u>Fireside Magazine</u> science fiction and fantasy
- Guardian Long Reads longform articles on a variety of topics



- World Book Day: World of Stories audiobooks
- World Book Day Secondary Resources extracts and activities
- <u>Lovereading4schools</u> ideas for book choices
- Alsager School LRC Padlet lots of ideas relating to books and reading

Resources for All Subjects — Year 7 to 11







<u>Credo Reference</u> – resource for research projects – access free with public library membership



World Book Online — premium access free with your public library membership



Khan Academy — cross-curricular resources



Seneca — cross-curricular revision materials



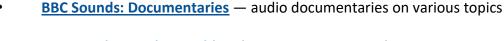
<u>DKfindout!</u> — cross - curricular information, especially suitable for Year 7



Gojimo — free revision app for GCSE



TedEd — a curated version of TEDTalks for younger learners





We Can Change the World podcast — interviews with inspiring young people



Wikipedia — although it is not reliable enough to use for everything, Wikipedia is still a great place to browse out of curiosity.



If you are struggling to make sense of a topic, Simple Wikipedia can also be a very helpful tool.



<u>GCSE Pod</u> – year 9-11 students have access to GCSE Pod with a username and password given by their teachers

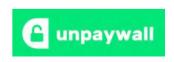




Resources for All Subjects — Sixth Form















- •JSTOR offers access to more than 12 million academic journal articles across all curriculum areas. Sign up for a free account to access.
- •Open Access journal articles Open Access articles are available to read for free, and can most easily be found through a search of the <u>Directory for Open Access Journals</u>. If you come across a paywalled article while researching that you would like to read, use the <u>Open Access Button</u> to search for a free and legal copy online, or email the article author directly to request a copy most academics are delighted to freely share their work when asked. Other similar resources are <u>Unpaywall</u>, <u>Open Textbooks</u>, <u>Core</u>, <u>ProjectMuse</u>, and the <u>Directory of Open Access Books</u>.
- <u>Google Scholar</u> and <u>Google Books</u> Many academic articles are available to search on Google Scholar, although the full text may not be linked in these cases, try using the Open Access options above. Similarly, Google Books has a vast index of books, many of which are available to read in full, but some will only be available as samples or for limited access.
- Oxford Reference searchable reference titles on a variety of subjects. Includes encyclopaedias, dictionaries, and books of quotations. Access provided via Leicestershire Public Libraries.
- OpenLearn courses and materials from the Open University
- •<u>TEDTalks</u> cross-curricular video lectures
- <u>FutureLearn</u> academic short course MOOCs (Massive Open Online Courses) from universities
- <u>Seneca</u> and <u>Gojimo</u> free cross-curricular revision materials
- BBC Sounds: Documentaries audio documentaries on various topics

Learning Support links to help access

This is a list of things you can do to make reading and writing easier when you are at home.

<u>Immersive Reader</u> – a free tool that implements proven techniques to improve reading and writing at all levels. Follow the link for information and further inks for the software you are using,









Help with reading

1. Reading websites that will read out loud for you

Google Chrome	Read aloud and screen reader
iPad/iOS	Speak selection and speak screen
Microsoft Word	<u>Wordtalk</u>
	Microsoft Windows dictation command
	Speak text to speech'
Android	Speak and Text-to-Speech

2. Headaches or blurry vision when you read

Google Chrome	Colour overlay
iPad/iOS	Display Accommodations on iPhone & iPad
Microsoft Word	Word – change the background colour
Android	This will depend on type of phone phone

3. Making the writing bigger

Google Chrome	Change text, image & video sizes
iPad/iOS	zoom
Microsoft Word	Change the font <u>size</u>
Android	Magnification and change Font

Help with writing

Speaking what you want to write (dictation)

Google Chrome	<u>Voice</u> typing
iPad/iOS	<u>Dictation</u>
Microsoft Word	<u>Dictate</u> what you want to write
Android	Voice typing

Help with new/tricky words and their meanings

- An excellent online dictionary with simple, easy to understand definitions is Cambridge Learner's
 Dictionary https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/learner-english/
- You can search by saying the word in the Merriam Webster dictionary, so spelling isn't important.
 You can use it online or download the app for Apple and Android. https://www.merriam-webster.com/

Resources for **Maths**



- Maths Genie videos and questions, past papers etc. for GCSE and A Level
- Parallel weekly maths puzzle challenges set by Dr Simon Singh
- Alex Bellos's Monday puzzles weekly maths and logic puzzles

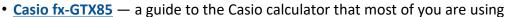
Numberphile



- Numberphile and Matt Parker popular, accessible maths videos on YouTube
- <u>Corbett Maths</u> revision videos, papers, worksheets, etc. for GCSE students
- <u>A Brief History of Mathematics</u> a BBC podcast by Professor Marcus du Sautoy
- The Secrets of Mathematics lecture series from Oxford University



- Marcus du Sautoy's Five Shapes and Simon Singh's Numbers BBC podcasts
- More or Less a BBC podcast about economics and maths
- <u>Dr Frost Maths</u> a maths teacher's free resources and guidance for students





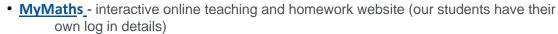
- ______
- Managing My Money for Young Adults a free course from the Open University covering everything you need to know about personal finance



- <u>CrashCourse</u> entertaining educational videos, including a series on Statistics
- Mathematics Today magazine access through Magzter at Cheshire East Library



- A Mathematician's Guide to Beauty BBC radio show about beauty and maths
- The Maths Show Matt Parker's short videos aimed at helping with GCSE Maths
- Planet Money another podcast about economics





- <u>Succeed With Maths</u> a two-day course from the Open University, designed for
- The Infinite Monkey Cage although primarily a show about science, there have been several great episodes of this podcast that focussed on maths:

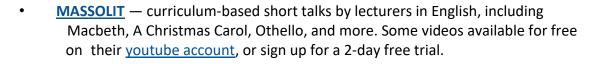
 Randomness, Infinity, Numbers, Love, Big Data, and the Origin of Numbers

people who are looking to improve their confidence with maths

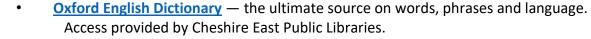
Resources for English













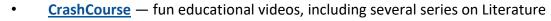
- <u>Emag</u> online access to the journal found in the LRC. Ask Mrs Griffiths for the username & password.
- <u>English Review</u> access to online archive of current and past journals



- My Shakespeare full-text, annotated, interactive editions of Shakespeare plays
- <u>Authorfy</u> videos about books, writing and reading from famous and brand new authors, including <u>10 minute challenges</u>.



- Project Gutenberg and Bartleby— classic literature available to read online
- <u>Author Masterclasses</u> videos from World Book Day authors

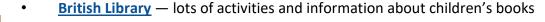




- <u>Librivox</u> audiobooks of texts out of copyright, read by volunteers
- <u>Poetry Foundation</u> contemporary and classic poetry



- iPlayer: Literature all the BBC TV shows about books, in one place
- <u>LitCharts</u> a large collection of brief, simple study guides for set texts
- <u>FreeRice</u> play vocabulary games to earn food charity donations





- Word of Mouth BBC podcast about language, hosted by Michael Rosen
- <u>Start Writing Fiction</u> a free course from the Open University, ideal for anyone who wants to become an author

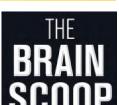


 <u>Bedrock Learning</u> - literacy improvement tool (free trial or our students have their own log in details)

Resources for **Science**







- <u>CrashCourse</u> entertaining educational videos, including series on Anatomy, Physics, Astronomy, Biology, Chemistry, and the History of Science
- The Brain Scoop science and natural history videos
- The Infinite Monkey Cage a BBC comedy podcast about science
- <u>Seterra</u> quiz yourself on your knowledge of human anatomy, cells, the periodic table, and more!



- The Life Scientific a BBC podcast about the work of individual scientists
- The Curious Cases of Rutherford and Fry a BBC podcast answering scientific questions sent in by listeners
- Science Friday and Undiscovered general science podcasts



- Outside a podcast about sport, health, technology and science
- <u>Science Journal for Kids</u> cutting-edge scientific articles, adapted for younger readers



- LabXchange science learning platform created by Harvard University
- The Feynman Lectures on Physics the classic lecture series, transcribed
- <u>In Our Time</u> a selection of episodes from the BBC's long running show about the history of ideas



- iPlayer: Science all the BBC TV shows about science and nature, in one place
- Physics Review access to online archive of current and past journals
- Biological Sciences Review access to online archive of current and past journals
- <u>Chemistry Review</u> access to online archive of current and past journals



Resources for **Music** and **Drama**



<u>BBC Arts: Culture in Quarantine</u> — a space for the BBC's curated output on every aspect of the Arts during this crisis

 <u>Radio Garden</u> — listen to live radio from all over the world on this amazing website



- <u>Song Exploder</u> a podcast about music and songwriting
- Audacity free software for sound editing
- <u>Stockholm Konserthuset</u> concerts by the Royal Stockholm Philharmonic Orchestra, free to watch online



- <u>Chrome Music Lab</u> interactive, music-based visualisations
- <u>iPlayer: Music</u> all the BBC TV shows about music, in one place



- Front Row the BBC's flagship programme about culture and the arts
- <u>Soul Music</u> a podcast about pieces of music with a powerful emotional impact
- <u>CrashCourse</u> fun educational videos, including a series on Theatre and Drama



- Magazines: Mojo, Q, BBC Music, BBC Future Music, Gramaphone access
 to these titles is provided through Magzter at Cheshire East Libraries or
 RBDigital at Staffs/Stoke Libraries
- Magazines: Rolling Stone, Rock and Folk via PressReader and Public Libraries

Resources for Art and Photography



- BBC Arts: Culture in Quarantine a space for the BBC's curated output on every aspect of the Arts during this crisis
- Google Arts and Culture explore high quality coverage of the world's best museums and galleries from home
- <u>Tate Galleries</u> browse the collections of these major galleries online
- <u>Virtual Tour of the National Gallery</u> explore the country's flagship gallery
- <u>Victoria and Albert Museum</u> browse the museum's collections online
- Krita a top quality, free programme for digital painting and illustration
- <u>AccessArt</u> free resources to use at home, provided by a UK art charity
- <u>Draw Every Day with JJK</u> author and illustrator Jarrett J. Krosoczka is
 offering regular new drawing tutorials, and you can watch all the
 previous episodes on his YouTube channel at any time.
- <u>Art Jumpstart</u> ideas for easy art projects you can make with recycling at home, from artist Darrell Wakelam.

Magazines: Amateur Photography, Vogue, Wallpaper, Digital
Photographer, Digital Camera World, Digital SLR magazine — access to all of
these titles is provided through Magzter at Cheshire East Libraries or
RBDigital at Staffs/Stoke Libraries

- <u>iPlayer: Arts</u> all the BBC TV shows about art, theatre, dance and more
- Oxford Reference including the Oxford Dictionaries of Art and Artists, Art
 Terms, and Companion to the Photograph. Access provided via Cheshire
 East Public Libraries.
- GIMP a free alternative to Photoshop for image editing
- <u>Line of Action</u> a collection of images and exercises for practising drawing (note: the figure drawing collection includes nude images, but you can filter these out!)



GALLERY







Resources for **Technology** and **Computing**



- BBC Food recipes and ideas
- 99% Invisible a podcast about design and society
- 50 Things That Made the Modern Economy a podcast about design, technology, history, business and politics
- <u>Codecademy</u> learn the Python coding language in this free course



- Learn Python —another free resource for learning the basics of Python
- Typing.com —learn to touch type
- <u>KeyHero</u> practice touch typing and improve typing speed



- <u>Scratch</u> you can download Scratch to use at home!
- <u>Technology Student</u> the website is a bit clunky, but the information is thorough and detailed, covering design, technology, and engineering topics.
- Food: A Fact of Life information for all age groups on food, produced by the **British Nutrition Foundation**



Magazines: BBC Good Food, Delicious, Vogue, Net, T3, How It Works, Wired, Stuff, Healthy Food Guide — access through Magzter at Cheshire East Libraries or RBDigital at Staffs/Stoke Libraries



- <u>iPlayer: Food</u> all the BBC TV shows about food, in one place
- Articles of Interest a podcast about fashion and textiles



- <u>CrashCourse</u> entertaining educational videos, including series on Engineering, Computer Science, AI, and gaming
- Simple Coding a two hour course from the Open University
- Introduction to Design Engineering a 10 hour course from the Open University
- Engineering Matters a podcast about engineering solutions



- Outside a podcast about sport, health, technology and science
- <u>Computing Britain</u> BBC radio series about the history of computing in Britain
- Code.org computer science and coding resources
- W3schools HTML tutorials



Resources for **Sport** and **PE**



- <u>BBC Sport</u> news coverage
- Get Fit for Free NHS guidance on free ways to exercise, including exercises that can be done at home and/or without equipment



- Couch to 5k the popular NHS course for beginner runners
- Active10 an NHS app for tracking your quick walks
- Replay a podcast of classic BBC commentaries from major sporting events



- <u>Outside</u> a podcast about sport, health, technology, and science
- <u>Seterra</u> quiz yourself on your knowledge of human anatomy



- PressReader Magazines: <u>FourFourTwo, Match of the Day, Country Walking, The Cricket Paper, Boxing News</u> access through PressReader and Public Libraries
- Magazines: Women's Fitness, Men's Fitness, Runner's World, Rugby World,
 Men's Health, Cycling Plus, Golf Monthly, Cycling Weekly access through
 Magzter at Cheshire East Libraries or RBDigital at Staffs/Stoke Libraries

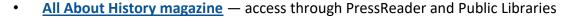


- Yoga with Adriene free yoga coaching on youtube
- <u>iPlayer: Sport</u> all the BBC TV shows about sport, in one place
- A Level PE access to online archive of current and past journals
- Fit and Fearless podcast about fitness, health and body confidence
- Strava track your running, walking and cycling



Resources for **History**





- More magazines: <u>BBC History, Smithsonian, and BBC History Revealed</u> —
 access available through Magzter at Cheshire East Libraries or RBDigital at
 Staffs/Stoke Libraries
- <u>50 Things That Made the Modern Economy</u> a podcast about history business, design, technology, and politics



- Google Arts and Culture explore high quality coverage of the historical events
- <u>CrashCourse</u> entertaining educational videos, including series on World, European and United States history



- <u>iPlayer: History</u> all the BBC TV shows about history, in one place
- <u>History Today</u> quality history articles, available to read without subscription
- <u>Stuff You Missed in History Class</u> a podcast about less-discussed history topics



- You're Dead to Me a fun new history podcast from the BBC
- Great Lives a radio series about inspirational people
- <u>History Extra</u> content from the BBC History Magazine, BBC History Revealed
- and BBC World Histories magazines



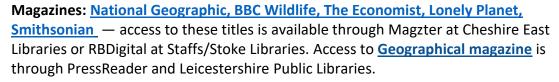
- <u>In Our Time</u> a selection of episodes from the BBC's long running show about the history of ideas
- Churchill Archive for Schools 20th century history



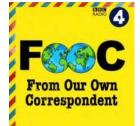


Resources for **Geography**





- <u>David Attenborough</u> and <u>Simon Reeve</u> explore the world on television
- <u>Time for Geography</u> educational videos
- <u>From Our Own Correspondent</u> fascinating, top quality radio reporting from all around the world



- <u>Seterra</u> quiz yourself on your knowledge of various maps!
- Worldmapper and Maptube collections of interesting world maps
- <u>Geography Fieldwork</u> support for GCSE and A Level fieldwork and investigations



 <u>The True Size</u> — try to get your head around the size of different countries when they are compared to each other

Royal Geographical Society

with IBG

Advancing geography and geographical learning

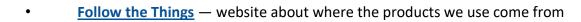
- <u>National Geographic Kids</u> cross-curricular resources for science and geography
 - <u>Gapminder</u> a website sharing information and interactive data about the world to increase our understanding of poverty, health, population, and more



Google Earth Tours — virtual tours of the ocean, famous landmarks, and more



- Ask the Geographer a podcast from the Royal Geographical Society
- <u>Geography At Home</u> resources and links from the Royal Geographical Society





- <u>Overheard at National Geographic</u> podcast from the explorers, photographers and scientists who work with National Geographic magazine
- <u>BFI RGS Films</u> historical films from international expeditions
- <u>CrashCourse</u> entertaining educational videos, including a series on Ecology
- Geography Review access to online archive of current and past journals

Resources for Religious Studies, Psychology and Sociology



- MASSOLIT curriculum-based short talks by lecturers in Philosophy, including Utilitarianism, Virtue Ethics, Plato, and more. Some videos available for free on their <u>youtube account</u>, or sign up for a 2-day free trial.
- Psychology Review access to online archive of current and past journals



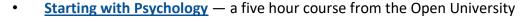
- <u>CrashCourse</u> entertaining educational videos, including series on Philosophy, World Mythology, Psychology and Sociology
- All in the Mind BBC podcast about psychology



- In Our Time: Religion and Philosophy selections of episodes from the BBC's long running show about the history of ideas
- <u>Morality in the 21st Century</u> BBC radio series by Rabbi Jonathan Sacks, with contributions from sixth form students



- A History of Delusions an experimental psychologist explores cases of delusion
- <u>Thinking Allowed</u> a BBC podcast about new sociological research
- <u>Tutor2U</u> covers Business & Politics, Geography, History, Sociology & Psychology





 <u>Introducing Philosophy of Religion</u> — a 12 hour course from the Open University





 <u>Introduction to Crime and Criminology</u> — a 6 hour course from the Open University

Resources for **Business** and **Politics**















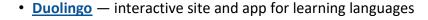




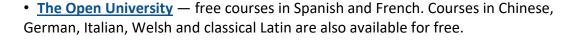
- Managing My Money for Young Adults a free course from the Open University covering taxes, budgeting, savings, credit, and more you need to know about money and personal finances
- <u>50 Things That Made the Modern Economy</u> a podcast about the history of business and economics.
- <u>They Work For You</u> find out about your MP, how they've voted and what they've said in debates, arranged in a way that is easy to understand.
- Parliament TV and Parliament UK keep up to date with the UK government
- MP for a Week get a taste of life as an MP in this quick, free game
- Newsstand access to all major newspapers, via Leicestershire Public Libraries
- <u>Tutor2U</u> covers Business & Politics, Geography, History, Sociology & Psychology
- <u>CrashCourse</u> entertaining educational videos, including series on Economics, US Government and Politics, Media Literacy, and Entrepreneurship
- From Our Own Correspondent top quality radio reporting from around the world
- <u>50 Things That Made the Modern Economy</u> a podcast about the history of business and politics
- Page 94: The Private Eye Podcast a news and politics podcast
- Andrew Heywood free resources shared by a key author of books about politics
- Politics Review Extra free downloads of quality articles and resources
- Politics Review access to online archive of current and past journals
- Business Review access to online archive of current and past journals
- More or Less and Planet Money podcasts about economics
- Magazines: <u>The Economist, Newsweek, The Week, Wired, Fast Company, TIME</u> —
 access to all these titles is available through Magzter at Cheshire East Library

Resources for Languages





Read short news articles in French or Spanish





- - Read longer news articles in <u>French</u> or <u>Spanish</u>



• Memrise and LingQ — other free apps for learning languages



- Hoy Hablamos a podcast in Spanish, aimed at people learning Spanish

• Lingolia — an online platform for learning French, Spanish, and other languages

Quizlet – vocab learning site



- News in Spanish listen and read the news in Spanish & English
- News in French listen and read the news in French & English
- News in German listen and read the news in German & English



- Notes in Spanish Learn to speak Spanish
- <u>Nachrichtenleicht</u> German weekly news review

Free Educational/Traditional Games



- FreeRice play vocabulary games to earn food charity donations
- <u>Chess Kid</u> learn to play chess
- **SparkChess** another option for free chess
- Mancala one of the world's oldest known games
- Jigsaw Planet jigsaws

