



David Walley's English School

info@dwenglishschool.com

WhatsApp: +7-926-062-40-37

Tips for Young Learners

Learning English on Skype is a fantastic way for young learners to study with a native speaker in a safe, comfortable environment. While most children are very proficient users of computers and online technology, there are a few things we recommend and suggest. These are general guidelines and you should always do what you feel is best for your child. We have divided these tips by the students' age:

Ages 5 - 7

- Use your Skype account or create a Skype account in your name, where only you know the password. The teacher will also communicate with you directly via email and/or WhatsApp, including giving you a report after each lesson
- Be in the same room as your child during lessons, but allow them to sit in front of the computer alone. This allows them a sense of freedom and direct interaction with the teacher while still allowing you to watch over them
- Do not interfere in the teaching process by giving your child answers. This may be difficult at first but students need time to process things for themselves and is extremely important. Do help with things like if your child needs the toilet, and with any behavioural issues
- Do help your child to be organized, such as having the correct materials, having homework ready, writing down new words and also in exchanging files via Skype
- Do let your child do the homework alone, but you can check over it and offer suggestions (not answers!)
- After the lesson, go over new words with your child and help them to practice before the next lesson

Ages 8 - 12

- Use your Skype account or create a Skype account in your name, but share the log-in details with your child. The teacher will communicate with you directly via email and/or WhatsApp, including giving you a report after each lesson
- Spend a few minutes before or during the first lesson helping your child understand how to open files the teacher has sent and how to use the listening files. This will help lessons run more smoothly and also means you don't have to sit with your child during every lesson
- If possible, ensure there is an adult nearby in case of any problems, but you don't have to sit with your child during lessons. You can always check what was done in the lesson by logging-in to the Skype account and reviewing the 'chat' box, which will be used as a whiteboard
- Do help your child to be organized, such as having the correct materials, having homework ready, writing down new words and also in exchanging files via Skype
- Do let your child do the homework alone, but you can check over it and offer suggestions (not answers!)
- After the lesson, go over new words with your child and help them to practice before the next lesson

Ages 13 - 16

- Choose whether your child uses their own Skype account, uses your Skype account or creates a Skype account in your name, but where you share the log-in details. Choose whether you prefer the teacher to communicate with you directly via email and/or WhatsApp, or directly with your child. You could create a special 'English learning' email address to ensure your child's own email address is kept private. You will still be given a report after each lesson, but we recommend discussing the lesson with your child too
- Spend a few minutes before or during the first lesson helping your child understand how to open files the teacher has sent and how to use the listening files. This will help lessons run more smoothly and also means you don't have to sit with your child during every lesson
- Remind your child that Skype lessons are just as important as 'regular' lessons, and that getting distracted by social media during the lesson is not acceptable. The teacher can clearly see if a student is paying attention!
- Check homework is being done, but don't do it for them. If you wish, you can practice new material with your child :)

As always, if you have any questions email us: info@dwenglishschool.com or WhatsApp us on +79260624037.