Tips for engaging ASD learners online

KS2/Secondary

Supporting independence

1. Set out a clear timetable of the lesson/week
2. Offer a pre-teach session or work/resources to be sent out for the learner to look through before the lesson starts
3. Send the learner a list of questions you may ask during the session – allowing them to prepare their answers ahead of the lesson
4. Don't insist the camera is on
5. Ensure all instructions or information is backed up with a visual representation
6. Enable 'chat' mode some learners may feel more confident
7. writing their ideas rather than speaking them
8. Set up a clear system for responses – does the learner know when they can/can't speak or ask a question
9. Reassure the learner they can have regular breaks, even during the session if necessary
10. Ensure the learner knows all this will be put in place ahead of the meeting in order to support any anxiety they may have joining a 'live' session
11. If possible debrief with the learners after the session on what they found helpful/what could be different next time

Liaise with parents

1. Ensure the learners space is clear of distractions and only has what they need
2. Ensure a timetable of the day is clear and easy to find
3. Ensure the learner has regular breaks, even during a session. Speak to the teacher regarding what they feel is necessary/acceptable for learning breaks
4. Check the learner knows which lesson they are starting and any prep they have done before hand