Remote delivery to students

Dear Colleague,

I hope this information finds you and your family safe and well.

With the latest announcement from the Government, we're once again looking at ways to teach remotely and best support our students. Several schools have already reached out for advice on how to deliver Lexonik Advance and Lexonik Leap remotely. Please read the advice below carefully:

Since August, Lexonik has utilised Microsoft Teams to train school staff so we know it's possible to effectively deliver via this platform, or one similar. In addition to Lexonik delivery materials, all that's needed is a webcam, speakers and a microphone. Ideally the deliverer should wear a headset to combat ambient sound; pure sound is key when developing phonological awareness and a headset with a mouthpiece dramatically improves the quality of the trainer's sound output. Students will also need a computer with speakers and microphone to participate fully.

Pace is crucial for both Lexonik Advance and Lexonik Leap and, when teaching via video link, it is impossible to work at the same speed as you would face-to-face; it hinders some of the magic! Improving students' ability to process sound at speed is essential in improving reading accuracy and fluency. So, whilst it is possible to continue with the programme by delivering remotely - and we encourage you to continue with delivery wherever possible - groups who complete the programme remotely cannot be expected to make the same level of gains as those students who complete the programme via the usual face-to-face model. The adaptations we're advising are only to be applied while we're forced to work remotely, with delivery reverting, as soon as possible, to the methods prescribed in your Lexonik manuals.

Lexonik Advance:
The main activities can be delivered as normal but the timed activities, i.e. activity 1 and 7, will be considerably slower when compared to face-to-face delivery. This should be explained to students in advance, to avoid disappointment, but it is still possible to demonstrate progress between rounds. Only when the group dynamic and student confidence allows, students could complete these activities individually and compete for the best individual score.

The nature of activity 3 makes it difficult to deliver via a webcam alone so we're putting together some PowerPoint slides for trainers to use. The slides will allow trainers to present a set of six words, as per the schemes of work, for the students to read, define and spell as they would normally with this activity. This adaptation means that students aren't building the word, but they are being allowed the opportunity to read and define the words. We'll share this resource shortly.

Under normal circumstances your Regional Trainer insists that deliverers adhere to the activities listed for each week but these are not normal circumstances, so we have to be flexible. If there is an activity that isn't working when delivered remotely via a webcam, then simply drop it and opt for another activity.

Lexonik Leap:
Leap is, by design, flexible. For those trained in this programme it will feel more natural to pick and choose appropriate activities. The majority of activities can be delivered as normal, but any timed activities will be considerably slower when compared to face-to-face delivery. This should be explained to students in advance, to avoid disappointment, but it is still possible to demonstrate progress between rounds. Only when the group dynamic and student confidence allows, students could complete these activities individually and compete for the best individual score.

Regional Trainers are being placed on flexible furlough so may not be contactable, but all inbound emails are being monitored so should you try to contact them then someone will respond to you as soon as possible.

We thank you for your patience.

The Lexonik Team