**Three ways that Britannica Digital Learning can make your lives easier**

Essex Virtual School has invested in resources from Britannica Digital Learning to help support the challenges that many young people face when online.

We know it is important for you as carers to feel assured that they are using a safe, reliable website, especially if they are exploring online independently and unsupervised. Below are the top three ways that Britannica can support you and the young people in your care.

1. **Keeping young people safe online**

The internet can be difficult to navigate. Innocent search terms can lead young people to biased views or misinformation, and their views can be shaped heavily by the things they see online. However, all of Britannica’s information is written and edited by subject specialists guaranteeing that the child or young person in your care is receiving the correct information from a trusted source.

Unlike a lot of the content you find online, our site is checked regularly to ensure the content is age-appropriate, up to date and educational. There are also no adverts or links to any unsafe websites, allowing young people to focus purely on their learning.

*Concerned about the child in your care being exposed to shocking or upsetting images online?* Bypass this with Britannica ImageQuest, a search engine hosting more than 3.5 million images sourced from trustworthy collections and feel confident that your children are safeguarded online.

1. **Helping young people progress in their education**

Many children in care may struggle to keep up with their peers in school if they have encountered disruption in their personal life, so Britannica supports them with various literacy tools. The read-aloud function highlights sentences in yellow to encourage young people to read along as they listen, and by double-clicking on any word they will be provided with a dictionary definition. There is also a translation tool to support children where English may not be their first language.

For those who are more visual learners or reluctant readers, Britannica also offers videos, images, games and tools such as the World Atlas, allowing young people to better engage with their learning and the world around them.

*Feel like you can’t help with a specific homework task?* Britannica helps by supplying you with expert information on any topic, allowing you to actively support your child in their studies.

1. **Supporting the whole Foster Family**

Carers have a huge task in making time for everyone in the household, particularly where there are a mixture of ages, abilities and interests. Essex Virtual School encourages the entire Foster Family to make use of their access to Britannica as it has something for everyone! With three different reading levels that range from Primary to Higher Education, no one gets left behind.

**To access the resource, go to:**

Link: <http://school.eb.co.uk/storeschoolcard?id=essexla>

ID number: Virtual.School

**Training Videos:**

Britannica School: <https://youtu.be/VS-xLUU5bOk>

ImageQuest: <https://youtu.be/0YJmt__bxJw>

For more information about Britannica School get in touch with Amy: awoodhams@britannica.co.uk