 How to use a Playstation or Xbox to access Learning at Home

Step 1: Get connected

Both consoles are straightforward.
Xbox, press the Xbox button on the controller to open the guide, and then select "My games & apps". Here, you need to find Microsoft's internet browser Microsoft Edge.
PS4's access is similar. From the PS4 home screen, scroll to the library. Then, click on applications. If you scroll down the apps you'll see a "www" sign circled by small dots. Click on that, and you're online.
Both consoles can use a low-cost keyboard and mouse for web browsing – connect these through wireless bluetooth or USB.

Step 2: Search out your online learning platform

We have put work and lessons online at XXXXXXX
and anything you can access through the browser on a computer you can now access through your console. Packages like Microsoft Teams are also available – just go to the website and type in your username and password.

There are also numerous other free online resources, which ParentKind has collated for your child's needs. Try the Cbeebies site, for instance, which features games, puzzles and radio, or Oak National Academy, the government funded provision that we as a school access.

Step 3: Set parental controls

If you're using your console as a learning hub, it might also be good to revisit how to set up parental controls, maybe to limit games your child has trouble prying themselves away from.

Xbox One you do this through your child's account.
First, go into settings and find the family page. Now select your child's account (if you don't see their account, click "add a family member" and create or add an account for them.) You'll now have access to a whole host of controls you can tailor to your kid's needs, from privacy and online safety to web filtering.
PS4 use the web browser to visit account.sonyentertainmentnetwork.com and sign in with the email address you used to set up your account. Select your account in the navigation bar at the top of the screen and select family management. Once you've added a child's account, you will get a similar choice of options, from spending limits to restricting apps / games to daily screen time.

Step 4: Install some educational games

There are other good educational games for both Xbox One and PS4.
If your child wants to be an astronaut, *Kerbal Space Program* is a rocket simulation game, in *Valiant Hearts: The Great War* players learn about WW1 as they help a German soldier find missing loved ones. The *Minecraft* Education package teaches children everything from coding to architecture to history and culture, and the basic version of the game is available through the *Minecraft Bedrock Edition.*