The Covid-19 quarantine has forced families to seclude themselves and adopt new, unimagined activities. Home office and remote education are the new modes of operation for most. Challenging all prior pedagogical models, girls and boys cannot attend class in person. Suddenly, families are obliged to assume a major role in their children’s academic education. This creates new challenges for families: making classroom learning a top priority in the home and overseeing the process of pedagogical and curricular education for their children.

The pandemic deepens inequality throughout the world and within our communities. In the United States, the current epicenter of Covid-19, Latino and African American children living in poverty are disproportionately affected. Many parents and caretakers work in the severely affected service industries. Some families lack minimum family environmental conditions, access to technology and internet. Others have had very difficult experiences with school themselves and may not have the capacity and the circumstances required to support their children. These conditions make remote learning an aspiration but not a reality. In addition, because of the difficult social and economic conditions of many impoverished households and the added stress of confinement and online schooling, tension and domestic violence are on the rise. These situations, and their resulting disruptions, will have long-lasting, negative effects on the developmental aspects of children and adolescents.

ATD Fourth World, Equity for Children, and The Center for New York City Affairs work in partnership to organize a webinar to create a space of dialogue among families living difficult situations and other actors in the education field in the face of Covid-19 in order to find solutions so that every child can learn.

The webinar will address the following pressing issues:
- How are disadvantaged families with children dealing with everyday challenges during the pandemic?
- What governmental and community action can help ensure proper schooling, nutrition and care for children and adolescents?
- Are educational systems prepared - or not - for the challenges of remote learning for students at every age?
- What kind of summer opportunities will be needed under the actual situation to allow children in deprived neighborhoods to disconnect, rest and be ready for the next school year?
- From what we have learned these past months, what needs to be in place to allow all children to thrive at school next year?
ATD Fourth World group of activists with direct experience of poverty
Maryann Broxton
Tina Lindsey
Rosetta Savanna
Kimberly Tyre
Stacy White

Partnership With Children, PS 284
the Gregory “Jocko” Jackson School
Alexandra Teitel

Director of Education Policy at The Center for NYC Affairs at The New School and Editor-in-Chief of InsideSchools
Tom Liam Lynch

Deputy Chancellor of Community Empowerment, Partnerships, and Communications
Adrienne Austin

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ATD Fourth World is a human rights based anti-poverty organization, with more than fifty years experience tackling inequality and promoting social justice in the US.

Working in partnership with people affected by poverty, ATD Fourth World has, since 1968, concentrated its efforts on supporting families and influencing policy in New York, New Mexico, New Orleans, West Virginia and Boston.

Equity for Children at The New School strives to develop processes that improve child well-being through the creation and dissemination of original research; seminars and in-person meetings for stakeholders to discuss cutting edge issues and concepts, and take action to reduce inequality; and through advocacy with decision-makers and policy-makers.

The Center for New York City Affairs at The New School is dedicated to advancing innovative public policies that strengthen neighborhoods, support families, and reduce urban poverty. Our tools include: rigorous analysis; journalistic research; candid public dialogue with stakeholders; and strategic planning with government officials, nonprofit practitioners, and community residents.