



Blackpool SEND Service Newsletter

Supporting schools and home learning for children and young people with Special Educational Needs.

28th April 2020

The Coronavirus outbreak means that parents and carers of young people with SEND are facing uncertainty. We know settings/schools are on the front line and are playing a hugely important role in keeping communities going in these challenging times. If your child is not able to attend their setting/school, we want to support you with some practical home learning advice, hints and suggestions through these newsletters and on the Blackpool Local Offer page on Facebook.

If there is any information that you would like to see on these newsletters or if you would like any advice or support with any aspect of home learning, please contact us by email: inclusions.team@blackpool.gov.uk

Useful Numbers and Websites

Corona Kindness - If you need to access any of those things or you feel you can help, please email helpneeded@blackpool.gov.uk or helpoffered@blackpool.gov.uk.

If you need help call 0808 1963080.

<https://www.blackpool.gov.uk/Campaigns/Coronavirus/Corona-Kindness.aspx>

Blackpool SEND Local Offer -

<https://www.fyidirectory.co.uk/kb5/blackpool/directory/localoffer.page?directorychannel=2&district=blackpool>

Keeping children safe Online -

<https://www.getsafeonline.org/>
<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/>

Recommended Films

Inside Out 2015 – Google Play/Sky/YouTube
 Temple Grandin 2010 – Netflix
 Life Animated 2016 – Netflix/YouTube

Supporting your child's pal at home

Examples of how you can support your child's play, without leading or taking over. These are general tips for supporting your child's play. Trust your own judgement.

- Wait to be invited to play. If your child is happily playing, it is fine to leave them to it.
- Help protect your child's play from interruptions. If your child is absorbed in playing, avoid switching on the TV or games console, asking questions or asking them to stop for other activities.
- Let your child explore and make mistakes. Let your child use trial and error and their own ideas without feeling foolish or judged.
- Let your children develop skills at their own pace. It is tempting to step in to help your child when they find something difficult but that is how they learn.
- Let children choose the themes of their games. Even if the themes seem difficult or upsetting, it is their play.

This information is taken from the IPA Play in Crisis: support for parents and carers written by Theresa Casey, April 2020

<http://ipaworld.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/IPA-Play-in-Crisis-Booklet-for-parents-and-carers-2020.pdf>

Feelings and supporting your child's mental health

Keep active and use movement – just dance on YouTube is great for all the family. Hoe Wicks PE sessions are great for keeping active, he does a fancy dress day on a Friday.

Take time together – Think about all the things you are missing doing or places you would like to go, write them down and put them in a jar for when the lockdown is over.

<https://www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters/looking-after-children-and-young-people-during-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/>



Sensory

Heavy work activities can help to calm some children by providing input to a child's muscles and joints and helping to increase their focus and attention.

Play tug of war

Play statues

Army Crawl

Digging in the garden

<https://www.andnextcomesl.com/2017/04/heavy-work-activities-for-home.html>

Speech, Language and Communication

<https://www.home-speech-home.com/twenty-5-minute-speech-therapy-activities-you-can-do-at-home.html>

Here you can find some free resources for supporting vocabulary and speech at home <https://speechandlanguageathome.com/sign-up>



Learning

BBC have created some amazing lessons, resources and support for parents.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>

Take this opportunity to teach your child to tell the time

https://www.123homeschool4me.com/26-telling-time-games-and-activities_43/

Nessy are currently offering free learning apps to support learning of the alphabet, phonics, sight words, syllable division and more. <https://www.nessy.com/uk/apps/>