



Blackpool SEND Service Newsletter

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

No.4

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The Coronavirus outbreak means that parents and carers of young people with SEND are facing uncertainty. 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. Once again if you would like any advice or support with any aspect of home learning, please contact us by email: inclusions.team@blackpool.gov.uk


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

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>

 <https://www.blackpool.gov.uk/Residents/Health-and-social-care/HeadStart-Blackpool/HeadStart-Blackpool.aspx>

 <https://blackpoolbetterstart.org.uk/>

Speech, Language and Communication

The National Literacy Trust's new project, Small Talk, aims to support the language development of 30,000 children under the age of five by equipping parents with the skills and confidence they need to chat, play and read with their child every day. <https://small-talk.org.uk/3-5-years/>



Learning

To help your child with their spellings and writing, write the numbers 1-6 down in a list and then write the spelling patterns next to each number ie. 1 – igh, 2 – ear etc. or for Grammar work 1 – adjective, 2 – conjunction etc. Your child can then roll a dice, they are to write a word with the correct spelling pattern or write a sentence containing the correct word type.

<https://childhood101.com/hands-on-spelling-activities/>

Visual Impairment

Guide Dogs are providing answers and information for people with sight loss and their families during the Corona Outbreak. Call their advice line on 0800 781 1444 for more information and guidance for families with children with a vision impairment.

<https://www.guidedogs.org.uk/services-we-provide>

If your child usually has their reading books enlarged by the modification team, please contact your child's school. Please be mindful that we are offering a scaled back service whereby we can email copies of books that we have in our archive.

Ambitious about Autism

The 'Right from the Start' toolkit contains a wealth of straightforward information in one place to guide parents and carers through their child's journey in the early years.

<https://www.ambitiousaboutautism.org.uk/information-about-autism/early-years/parent-toolkit>

The National Autistic Society have created some top tips for parents and families, download the full list from the following link. <https://www.autism.org.uk/services/helplines/coronavirus/resources/tips.aspx>

Supporting Wellbeing

Kooth is a web based confidential support service available to young people (aged 10-16) to support wellbeing and resilience. Kooth offers young people the opportunity to have a text-based conversation with a qualified counsellor. <https://www.kooth.com/>

Hearing Impaired

The outbreak is affecting everyone, but for families of deaf children, there are some additional things to think about. The national deaf children's society are offering a wealth of guidance and support. <https://www.ndcs.org.uk/blog/coronavirus-and-support-for-deaf-children-information-for-families/>

National Share-a-Story Month

The theme this year is the Planet we Share – this can include stories about the people, animals and the planet, giving a fairly wide set of stories to share.

Resources are available to download from <http://fcbg.org.uk/national-share-a-story-month-2020/>

You can access some free books at <https://www.booktrust.org.uk/books-and-reading/have-some-fun/storybooks-and-games/>

Tips on helping your child to read

Here are some easy ways you can make reading a part of every day:

- Do not worry about how long you read for. Every minute spent reading makes a bigger difference than you realise!
- Do not worry about what your children are reading: recipes, cereal packets, Argos catalogues etc. It is all useful, just help them to recognise words. Keep books and other reading materials close by.
- Reading to children of all ages is helpful. If your little one is not reading by themselves yet, read with them.
- Ask lots of questions: Who, what, where, when and why and ask them to summarise when you've finished.

