



Blackpool SEND Service Newsletter

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

No. 5



19th May 2020

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. If you would like any advice or support with any aspect of home learning, please visit the Blackpool SEND Local Offer page on Facebook and submit any questions, your child's school are always there to help too.

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


Useful Numbers and Websites

Corona Kindness - If you need any support at this time or feel you are in a position to offer help please contact the corona kindness team at

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/>

ChatterPack is a voluntary-run, special educational needs and disabilities hub. <https://chatterpack.net/>

Learning

Topsta is a site created to provide parents and children with an easier way to find great books. Take part in their challenge to read 15 minutes everyday for 30 days. Packs can be found here

<https://topsta.com/blog/view/topsta-reading-pack>

To learn a new skill we need to be able to see what it looks like and practise it many times. Different skills take different lengths of time to grasp. It can be helpful to first demonstrate a new skill for your child. Then practise the skill together until your child feels confident to have a go on their own. It might be helpful to start your home learning activities with, "what did we practise yesterday?" To see if they need more practise time."

Make the most of every opportunity to play and learn. See Better Starts biglittlemoments.

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

Mental Health Awareness Week

Hosted by the Mental Health Foundation, Mental Health Awareness Week takes place from 18th – 24th May 2020. The theme is kindness.

<https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/campaigns/mental-health-awareness-week>

Here are some ideas of random acts of kindness that you could try this week

<https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/coronavirus/random-acts-kindness>

If you need urgent help as you are in mental health distress, then there is always someone you can call.

<https://www.lscft.nhs.uk/crisis>

Social Stories

Social stories are a great tool to help manage difficult or confusing situations. It is a way to give information explaining what might happen in a simple, supportive and reassuring way.

This site is great to help families write their own social stories

<https://www.encourageplay.com/blog/how-to-write-a-social-story>

Hearing Impaired

The national deaf children's society are offering a free family sign language course.

https://www.ndcs.org.uk/our-services/our-events/online-events/family-sign-language-course/?utm_campaign=FSL%20Launch%20-%20fingerspelling&utm_source=emailCampaign&utm_content=&utm_medium=email

British Sandwich Week

British Sandwich week is a week long celebration of the greatest food to go and quite possibly the most iconic British Culinary invention, the sandwich. It takes place from 19th – 25th May 2020.

- Warburtons have created a sandwich making project - <https://www.warburtons.co.uk/corporate/teaching-resources/sandwich-making-project>.
- You can find visuals for making a sandwich at twinkl - <https://www.twinkl.co.uk/search?term=making+a+sandwich>
- Some healthy ideas for lunchboxes can be found here - <https://www.nhs.uk/change4life/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes#make-your-own>
- Learn about the history of the sandwich - https://elt.oup.com/elt/students/headway/pdf/dyslexiafriendly/hwy_elem_reading_text_u8.pdf
- Sing a song <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mK4O8hi30UA>

- Making sandwiches without real food - If you have decided to make cardboard or plastic food sandwiches, proceed exactly as above but just use your cardboard fillings. You can still practice all the actions and choose the ingredients so it is almost as good as doing the real thing.

- Write the instructions to make a sandwich; younger children could draw pictures to show the steps.

- Have a family competition – Who made the best tasting sandwich? Who made the most unusual sandwich?

