



Blackpool SEND Service Newsletter

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

No. 7

9th June 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/>

Blackpool Libraries

Blackpool Libraries are working with The Resilience Revolution and their young people to bring you a new eBook collection.

The Resilience Revolution Collection contains books for ages 13+ which are all about beating the odds whilst changing the odds.

Books available online for children and teens to download <https://blackpool.overdrive.com/library/youth>

All they need is a library card, if you don't have a library card, you can sign up online

<https://www.blackpool.gov.uk/Residents/Libraries-arts-and-heritage/Libraries/Join-the-library.aspx>

Visit the Blackpool Libraries Facebook page to see their weekly events, they are running book clubs, story times and a quiz.

Speech, Language and Communication

Afasic have shared some great word games for schools and families to enjoy, created by Stephen Parsons and Anna Branagan. <https://www.afasic.org.uk/2020/04/tips-on-home-schooling-from-other-parents/>

I CAN's Talking Point for parents - This gives parents/carers the information they need to help children develop their speech, language and communication skills.

If a child has difficulty understanding language or speaking, they may struggle in nursery or school. If the problem persists they might require support, but with the right help, they can develop the skills they need.


I CAN has developed a range of resources and factsheets to help children with speech, language and communication needs. <https://ican.org.uk/i-cans-talking-point/parents/>

Bike Week 2020

Bike week will be online from 6th to 14th June; there are a fun series of events online. Cycling is a great way to keep fit and active and is a good way to boost immunity.

Find some family activities and learn more about cycling at <https://www.cyclinguk.org/bikeweek/activities-for-families>

Visual Impairment

 are offering two free webinars: A sparkly box of lovely learning ideas and A sparkly box of stories. The shows are available on their

Facebook page. However, if you do not have Facebook, you can watch all the show recordings from links on the website.

<https://www.positiveeye.co.uk/our-services-2/bespoke-courses/activity-shares-for-families-covid19/>

Scroll down to the bottom of the page and click on the colourful images to access the shows.

7 Tips for talking to children with Autism

1. Make the effort to talk to them - try not to assume that if they do not respond or shut down that they do not want to talk.
2. Pick your moments – try to fit it into their routine, wait for quiet and calm moments.
3. Talk about what they want to talk about – it may not be something that you talk much about but you will find that they will engage much more if they are talking about something they like.
4. Keep it to the point – keep the pace of the conversation at the level they can maintain, give them time to think and process information.
5. If talking does not work, try writing – draw pictures or write down words.
6. Pay attention to non-verbal signals – certain motions or actions they use while speaking might tell you more than the words they say.
7. Remember they are just children.

