



Crookfur Primary School & Family Centre



Thursday 7th January

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope that you are all well and thank you for your patience as we prepare to move to learning at home next week.

To confirm, at the moment the Scottish Government has indicated that schools and early learning centres will remain closed to all children, other than for emergency care for the children of keyworkers and other identified children, until the end of January. This will be subject to review.

We are all sad that we have not been able to begin the new term together and hope that this period, although necessary, will be short term.

There has been a significant demand for in-school/nursery provision, which is indicative of the number of frontline workers who are parents in our school and family centre. We are so grateful to you for all that you are doing during these awful times.

We understand that the return to remote learning is far from ideal and presents huge challenges for everyone. Unfortunately we are unable to provide care in school for families who do not meet the criteria set. I know that these words will offer little comfort, but we are all in this together and as a school we will do all that we can to ensure that the children enjoy positive and progressive learning experiences while they are at home.

We have received a high volume of requests for places which would exceed the provision I believe we can safely offer.

In order for our school and nursery to continue to comply with government and health guidance to limit virus transmission, we must take steps to ensure that the numbers of children accessing the provision remain as few as possible. Key worker families are aware that they can only request the days that are absolutely essential and where they have no alternative care for their child(ren). If any parent, even those identified as key workers, is able to work from home then their child(ren) should remain at safely at home with them.

Our home learning arrangements will be a little different for this period of closure as we wish to focus on continuing learning. I have detailed the format and content below which I hope will reassure parents who are concerned that they will have to manage home learning whilst working themselves.

Access

Remote learning will be presented through Google Classroom. All children should be familiar with accessing Google Classroom through Glow as this is used for our weekly homework.

Children will need to know their Glow login and password. If your child is having any trouble accessing Glow, please contact the school and we can help (SchoolMail@Crookfur.e-renfrew.sch.uk)

There are guides to support access using different devices available through our school website, using this link <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/er/Crookfur/coronavirus/learning-at-home-digital-support/>

Thank you for completing the online survey to borrow a device. To ensure equity, we will provide one device to each family who have requested one. If we have any remaining then I will be able to provide additional devices where required. These can be collect and signed out tomorrow (details below). Please bring your own pen and a bag to carry the chromebook and charger.

Content - Online

Learning in literacy and numeracy will be provided each day. As new concepts will be introduced, it is essential that children engage in learning.

An optional learning experience from other curricular areas will be provided daily.

Tasks and activities will be clearly organised and your child's work programme will be displayed as weekly or daily overview.

Lessons will be in a pre-recorded video format, enabling children to play them and watch over if there is anything that they want to hear again. We are utilising excellent resources produced within the school, local authority and at a national level. These support planned learning for your child but please note multiple professionals, not only your child's class teacher, have produced them.

Children will then be directed to complete a follow up task.

Teachers will be online twice daily (morning and afternoon) to respond to children's questions, check in and provide any further explanation or direction. Please note teachers will not be able to respond to parents' questions. If you would like to contact your child's teacher, please e-mail the school and they will call you back.

At this time we do not plan to host "live" lessons. I wish to be fully inclusive and "live" sessions do not afford families flexibility in terms of timing or access to devices. Research shows that pre-recorded sessions are as effective in supporting learning.

Tasks and activities will be set to be available at 9am each day.

Tasks will be assigned for one week at a time and will include a weekend to allow some family flexibility. Please ensure children click "submit" when they have completed a task or "mark as done" as this helps us to monitor children's engagement.

Content – Offline

Some home learning materials will be provided to complement and support the online content. This will include jotters, activity booklets, worksheets etc. relevant to the tasks set for your child. These can be collected from school tomorrow (see details below).

We hope that our families will feel well supported and children will be equipped to access learning with a little more independence as a result of the way that Google Classroom are organised. Of course, we are also always learning and I am sure we will modify and adapt as we go.

Education and learning come in many forms and there will be lots of rich learning opportunities within the home environment which should be enjoyed and valued. When completing written tasks it might be best to sit at a table in a quiet environment however don't feel you have to create a classroom in your home. Supporting your child(ren) at home must be flexible and work for you as a family.

Collection Arrangements – Home Learning Packs and Digital Devices

In order to make this as smooth as possible please see the arrangements below:

- Packs can be collected from **Crookfur**
- They will be available on Friday 8th January 2021

P1&2 (and any siblings)	P3&4 (and any siblings)	P5, P6 & P7 (and any siblings)
9.15am -11.15am	11.15am – 1.15pm	1.15 – 3.00pm

- We will operate a one way queueing system which will be signposted (although we hope no one will need to wait very long)
- We will have a station with hand sanitiser and will mark out 2m spacing from the main entrance
- Ideally **only one** adult per family should collect the packs and where possible it would be helpful if you can collect for friends/neighbours to deliver to them to their doorstep. This is to minimise the number of people we are having at the school.
- If you are unable to collect your child's pack/device tomorrow, please nominate a friend or relative to collect these on your behalf.
- We will issue packs directly to children who are attending school tomorrow.

Free Meal Entitlement

Delivery of food bags will resume next week. If you receive a qualifying benefit that entitles your child to a free school meal, a bag will be delivered to your home.

These are truly difficult times for us all and I know that so many changes can be upsetting for children and adults alike. Parent Club and East Renfrewshire's HealthiER Minds resources have lots of great information to promote positive mental wellbeing

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/er/healthierminds/>

On behalf of all of our Crookfur team, thank you for your continued support. By following all of the guidelines and helping to limit transmission, we will all contribute to making sure that this is a short-term closure and can look forward to all being together again soon.

Warmest wishes

Sheena McGuigan

Head Teacher