

Glenbrae Children’s Centre

Remote Learning at Home Policy

**Our Vision:**

At Glenbrae Children’s Centre we aim to provided children and families with support and resources using a variety of methods to continue learning at home in a way which suits their individual needs.

**Rationale:**

In December 2020 the First Minister announced that Early Learning and Childcare Settings should provide remote learning from January 2021. This policy sets out to share expectations and establish a collective understanding of what learning at home means for our ELC community for this period of closure and/or further closures.

**Aim**:

This remote learning policy aims to:

* set out the expectations for all members of our ELC community with regards to learning at home.
* ensure consistency in the approach to learning at home for children that supports continuity of learning.
* establish how we will implement and quality assure our learning at home offer,
* provide clarity as to how our ELC’s approach to learning at home links to guidelines from both the council and Education Scotland.

**What is learning at home (remote learning)?**

*‘Remote learning is learning that is* ***directed*** *by practitioners and* ***undertaken*** *by children and young people who are not physically with the practitioner while instruction is taking place.’*

*Education Scotland January 2021*

**What will learning at home (remote learning) look like for learners?**

*“Learners should not engage in online learning for the entirety of the school day. Learning may include activities such as research tasks, project work, practical opportunities, discussions and other activities that can be carried out away from a digital device.”*

*Educations Scotland January 21*

Learning at Home should continue to be based on the pedagogy of play and offer a range of opportunities that can be undertaken both indoors and out. It should reflect the curriculum offer that would be available within the setting.

**In Glenbrae learners can expect:**

* Planned weekly learning packs linked to Literacy, Numeracy and Health and Wellbeing. They will be available for all age groups offering parents suggested fun filled activities to support learning at home.
* Physical packs containing resources to support online learning will be available for collection from the centre weekly on an identified day.
* Packs will cover a variety of curricula areas offering learning experiences both indoors and outdoors.
* Keyworkers will contact families every fortnight to offer support and guidance for both learning and wellbeing.
* Signposting to other agencies providing learning and support online e.g. Parent zone or Bookbug will be available through our twitter feed, e-mail, telephone calls and conversations with keyworkers.

**What is the role of parents:**

*“Parents and carers want the very best for their children. It is important to stress that, in a period of remote learning (learning at home), parents and carers are not expected to be teachers (ELC Practitioners) and we understand that many will be juggling work and childcare.”*

*Education Scotland January 2021*

* Parents can support their child to participate in learning at home by ensuring that it is fun and enjoyable. – packs are filled with a variety of ideas and resources.
* Parents should promote a daily routine where possible, and review what strategies help them be successful ensuring they are mindful of their child’s wellbeing.
* Parents should regularly check their e-mails, and twitter to keep them updated on relevant information and signposting to a variety of web sites.
* Parents will be regularly contacted via phone calls by keyworkers to discuss their wellbeing and their child’s wellbeing, interests from home and what resources are required to facilitate this.
* If any parent requires support outwith they can contact the centre and speak with SMT.
* Questionnaire will be used to monitor and evaluate the engagement of children at home.

**What is the role of staff:**

*‘Class teacher (ELC Practitioner) retains responsibility for planning and organising children’s and young people’s learning, with learning supported by parents and carers’*

*Education Scotland January 2021*

* Staff will prepare and deliver weekly learning activities and create resource packs to support online learning. These will be differentiated for Numeracy and Literacy
* Staff will carry out fortnightly phone calls to their key children parents
* Staff will support and deliver learning experiences in the hub
* Staff have been given a list of professional learning from home which will support the centres improvement plan.

**How will we encourage engagement for ELC children:**

It is important that we track families’ engagement in learning at home to identify families who may need additional support to access the learning at home provision. As well as this tracking engagement in learning at home this will be a key function of our safeguarding responsibilities to children as well as supporting family well-being.

* Staff will track engagement / participation through fortnightly communications with parents.
* Staff will discuss any issues with parents to offer support and will if necessary will discuss an alternative way of delivery packs.
* What support will you offer?
* What to do if you child is unwell or unable to engage in remote learning, please treat this the same way you would if they were not able to attend ELC.. Please contact the nursery (Tel 01475 714987)

**How will we ensure quality**

* Parental questionnaires will be uploaded every 6 weeks and available in packs, fortnightly phone calls from keyworkers and through conversation with parents.
* Feedback from parents will inform future planning
* Focus on children’s achievement’s at home celebrated on their return to nursery.

**Further reading / related documents:**

* Inverclyde’s Remote Learning Guidance, January 2021
* Inverclyde digital safeguarding guidance, revised January 2021
* [Education Scotland Remote Learning](https://education.gov.scot/media/hblh4yy0/cerg-remote-learning-080121.pdf)
* Maximising Engagement during lockdown – Inverclyde Attainment Challenge 2021
* [Learning at Home](https://education.gov.scot/parentzone/learning-at-home) – Parentzone Scotland resources
* [Read, Write, Count](http://www.readwritecount.scot/) - a national initiative which aims to improve the literacy and numeracy  skills of Scotland’s children.
* [PlayTalkRead](http://playtalkread.scot/) - encourages parents and families to include easy and fun reading, writing and counting activities in their everyday lives.