



Inverkip Nursery Class

Learning at Home Policy (ELC)



Our Vision:

While the COVID-19 pandemic has changed many things, our commitment to ensuring that the children are at the heart of all our decision making remains. We will strive to adopt a solution orientated approach and continue to work in partnership to ensure that the nursery is at the heart of our village community.

Our remote learning vision is to ensure that we learn today for a better tomorrow where every child matters and every moment counts. **# Learning to Learn # Learning to Love # Learning to Lead**

We aim to ensure that there is continuity of learning with a curriculum plan that is adaptable and responsive to the full range of learners' needs and has the core principles of Scotland's curriculum and the four fundamental capacities at its centre. There will be a varied provision of opportunities to consolidate, extend and enhance learning through a play based pedagogy.

We have adapted learning and teaching to ensure a strong focus on children's mental health and well-being, numeracy and literacy and we are proactive in ensuring that any barriers to engagement are being addressed.

By developing remote learning strategies our pupils will have unique opportunities to develop innovative pedagogies that engage different learning styles and foster the knowledge and skills required of a rigorous 21st-century education, expanding access to lifelong learning opportunities

Our ethos continues to be a climate of teamwork, respect and trust, where all our children aspire to become successful learners, confident individuals, responsible citizens and effective contributors. We seek to provide a remote education offer that ensures a progression in learning and skills with breadth, depth and challenge for all our children.

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?

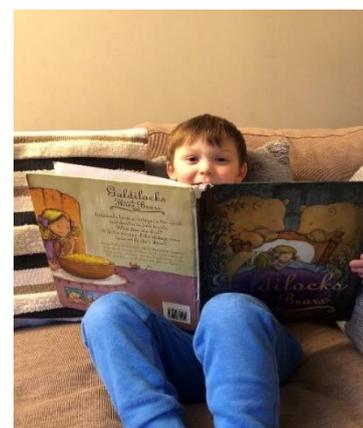
"Learners should not engage in online learning for the entirety of the school day. Learning may include activities such as research tasks, project work, practical opportunities, discussions and other activities that can be carried out away from a digital device."

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 Inverkip Nursery Class ELC learners can expect:

- Engaging weekly learning packs with an exciting different theme each week.
 - Each learning pack will offer a variety of activities encompassing all areas of the curriculum
 - Resources to carry out suggested craft activities
 - Links to further online learning opportunities matching the theme for that week.
- Activities and experiences provided will aim to cover the areas of literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing, as well as including opportunities for the children to further develop skills like hand to eye coordination and fine motor skills.
- Daily ideas/tasks will be posted on our nursery twitter page. The nursery also has its own YouTube channel where staff will post videos of storytelling.
- We will have weekly pastoral check-in calls with our families to check in and provide support and guidance to our families where needed.



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 will be able to support their child to participate in learning at home by simply promoting fun and enjoyment, and to remain mindful that nursery aged children will learn through play!
- Our weekly learning grids are emailed out to parents on a Friday, and will cover a range of activities and also some additional links to online learning. Parents may find it useful to have a look at suggested online materials.
- Parents will also be able to find daily activities/ideas/tasks on our Twitter page and school website.
- The nursery staff will contact the parents of their keyworker group children once a week to carry out a wellbeing check in, and to offer any support or guidance.
- (This will be done over the phone, however can be emailed if the parents wish to do so. During this check in, staff will remind parents of the nursery phone number and also their nursery email address, should the parents need to get into contact with them).



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

- It is the responsibility of the staff to ensure they are providing high quality learning packs each week. These packs should cover all areas of the curriculum with a particular focus on: literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing. The packs will look at depth, breadth and challenge to ensure that the activities are engaging and motivating for our children
- The nursery will also provide a physical copy of the pack with resources for parents to use to support the learning
- The staff will be committed to working in the childcare hub on a rota basis

- Staff will work from home when not committed to the Hub rota. Staff will complete a variety of tasks such as preparing resources and engagement in a variety of professional development activities
- The staff who are working in the childcare hub will be responsible for providing childcare and learning to the keyworker and vulnerable children attending
- The staff who are working from home will be responsible for supporting the remote learning by providing activities/updates for twitter, answering emails from parents and researching National good practice ELC ideas for the home learning packs
- All staff are responsible for carrying out the weekly wellbeing check-ins via phone call, for their own keyworker group. In the event where they aren't able to make contact with any of their families, this will be passed onto senior management who will then make an attempt to get in contact, either via phone call or email.



How will we encourage engagement?

It is important that we track families' engagement in learning at home to enable the nursery to identify any barriers to learning. We will continue to identify families who may need additional support to access the learning at home provision. Our monitoring procedures will allow us to ensure that our safeguarding responsibilities to children as well as supporting family well-being are fully met.

- We will encourage parents, where they are able, to engage with us via the social media platform, Twitter. In each weekly learning grid, we are asking parents to tweet us any pictures or videos of their child carrying out the home learning tasks. Parents can also choose to send evidence and messages through email, and with their position, photos and videos can be uploaded to our Twitter page
- Staff have procedures in place to allow them to monitor which families are collecting the home learning packs
- Weekly check-ins allow staff to assess family engagement, and enable them to identify if any families need additional help or support
- We will facilitate a weekly borrowing service of books and learning resources where families can select resources to use at home to support remote learning and return when finished

How will we ensure quality?

- Staff will participate in moderation activities to ensure that remote learning packs are high quality
- Engagement with the council's ELC Education Services team including focused meetings about learning at home
- Continue to develop strong communication between school and home through a variety of channels such as email/phone calls/Twitter/website
- Provide regular feedback opportunities through Form questionnaires from pupils, parents and staff to ensure ongoing reflection and review of our remote learning provision. Adopting a dialogic approach – listening, talking and observing – will be used as a first stage in gathering formative information about learning needs
- Ensure commentary on our remote learning provision is highlighted within the annual Standards and Quality Report
- Planning will build on the experiences and progress of children and will use a strengths-based approach – building on what children can do
- Ensure ongoing partnership and engagement with our parent community to drive and review nursery improvement priorities
- Continue to engage with our nursery 'Recovery Plan' to ensure any development needs and actions are implemented and reviewed as outlined
- Provide opportunities for staff to participate in moderation activities targeting consistency of provision across keyworker groups. Staff are rotated in the childcare Hub regularly and this allows staff to implement remote learning plans
- Provide regular opportunities for staff to engage in professional dialogue, collegiate activities and encourage professional learning activities to develop pedagogical understanding and build staff capacity
- Keep abreast of updated ELC Scottish Government and Care Inspectorate guidance and adapt as necessary
- Environmentally scan and scope good practice at a National level through engagement with professional learning community and Education Scotland publications.
- Liaise regularly with the ELC Education Services team including focused meetings on our remote provision and use of audit tools to review practice

Further reading / related documents:

- Inverclyde's Remote Learning Guidance, January 2021
[Inverclyde update guidance for schools and ELCs 1 2 final.pdf](#)
- Inverclyde digital safeguarding guidance, revised January 2021
[Inverclyde Digital Safeguarding Guidance Updated Jan 2021V2 \(1\).pdf](#)
- Education Scotland Guidance
[Education Scotland Remote Learning](#)
- Maximising Engagement during lockdown – Inverclyde Attainment Challenge 2021
[Maximising Engagement during Lockdown 2 Inverclyde AC January 2021.pdf](#)
- [Learning at Home](#) – Parentzone Scotland resources
- [Read, Write, Count](#) - a national initiative which aims to improve the literacy and numeracy skills of Scotland's children.
- [PlayTalkRead](#) - encourages parents and families to include easy and fun reading, writing and counting activities in their everyday lives.