



Renfrewshire  
Council

## **Renfrewshire Council** **Term 4 Guidance on Remote Learning**

Renfrewshire Council is committed to ensuring a continuity of education provision for children and young people during the current period of closure. However, there is no expectation that the contingency measures being put in place by our establishments will replicate normal early education delivery. Instead, our staff are working extremely hard to provide a balance of sustainable learning experiences for all our children whilst they work from home.

### **Wellbeing of All**

During this challenging time, it is very important that we all take care of our physical and mental health; children, parents and all staff. Keeping young minds active, happy and ready to return to our establishments when the time comes is a very important factor and, within this, early years staff should be mindful of their own health and well-being. We therefore advise all our staff to ensure that they maintain a healthy work-life balance during what is likely to be an extended period of homeworking for staff and children. Everyone should take regular breaks during the day, doing some physical activity and spending time outdoors if possible, within the limits of current national guidance on social distancing. Where possible, parents should encourage children to intersperse play and learning activities with physical and outdoor activities.

A variety of resources are available to support parent and child wellbeing, including:

UK Government guidance -

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-supporting-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health-and-wellbeing/guidance-for-parents-and-carers-on-supporting-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health-and-wellbeing-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak>

Scottish Government –

<https://www.gov.scot/news/supporting-parents-and-families/>

### **Learning expectations**

Each of our establishments is using an online platform to communicate with our families e.g. See Saw, Twitter and Facebook. Work is ongoing to address how to best meet the needs of families who do not have home digital access, as resources given out by some establishments at the outset will now have run out – establishments will inform parents of their plans shortly.

Play and learning activities, which require minimal resources and do not incur a cost to families, set by our early years staff will suit the age range and capabilities of the children. As a minimum, these will include a daily suggestion for a game/play activity linked to literacy (e.g. storybook, sound hunt) & numeracy (e.g. set up a shop, shape hunt) plus another fun activity e.g. junk modelling, create puppets from wooden spoons/socks etc. Some activities will be appropriate for children to do on their own and others may require minimal parental support.

### **Reporting**

Each establishment has their own arrangements in place for keeping in touch with families. Where telephone calls to families are thought to be helpful, these will be carried out using clear protocols which safeguard both families and staff.

For children transferring to primary school, discussions are currently underway to ensure appropriate information on children's progress is passed to school staff. Again, establishments will inform parents and carers of these arrangements shortly.

### **Use of IT**

As far as possible, where digital technology is being used to support learning and play at home, this should be familiar and accessible to staff, parents and children. The use of approved, well-known and commonly used websites is encouraged. It is recommended that both staff and children limit screen time to avoid visual fatigue or any risk to physical or mental health. When considering any new online

resource, staff must be mindful of current GDPR guidance around the use of personal/child/family information.

Guidance for parents:

<https://qz.com/1819866/how-to-manage-your-kids-screen-time-during-coronavirus/>