



Social Distancing and Continuous Provision Toolkit

Resources

- Think about what your resources are made from and how easy they are to clean? Not easy – Then store temporarily.
- **A temporary farewell to some of our favourites** - Remove Loose parts, malleable materials, pasta, seeds, rice, play dough, clay.
- **Return to plastic/wipe clean** - Replace wooden resources with plastic or wipeable resources that can be easily cleaned - you can use pillow cases/ nets to put Lego etc through the dishwasher/ washing machine or to soak in Milton
- Remove tea sets/ pretend food as this encourages children to put things near (or in!) their mouths!
- **Physical structure** - Can you create 'zones' or 'stations' where individual children can play? – Consider using tape on the floor to support your visual & EAL learners.
- **Water play** - Only an individual activity for washing cars, dolls, toys etc
- Put sand & messy trays in temporary storage
- **Soft Furnishings** - Remove soft furnishings (blankets, cushions, cuddly toys) unless they can be washed daily - or cover sofas/ soft chairs with sheets that can be washed daily.
- **Outdoor learning** - Consider this as much as possible! It's much easier to socially distance outdoors, much less to clean and great for improving mental health.

Timetables and Activities

- **Timetable** - Try to use a visual timetable if still possible, this will help all children but particularly EAL/SEN
- **Snack & drinks** - School snacks only wherever possible. No rolling snack. Snack and drinks to be closely monitored. Named, individual water bottles adult to monitor use to ensure no cross-contamination. Consider supervised water breaks for all
 - **Carousel activities** - These need to be short and active, not just sat at tables. Build challenge. It's important to create a routine again. It'll be a different routine but keep it consistent.
- **Phonics** - A whiteboard, pen and rubber per child. To be kept in their drawer to prevent sharing resources.
- **Have some fun!** - How about setting a 'Dance Alarm'? When a particular upbeat song plays everyone has a fun and energetic dance in their 'area'.
- Build in handwashing times. Maybe this could be to music too? When 'your song' plays, you wash your hands!

Health and Wellbeing

- **Maintain the ‘Bubble’** - Ensure children are kept in the same groups with the same adults and avoid mixing groups to minimise the risk of the virus spreading.
- **Part time days** - Days will of course be structured differently in individual schools. If your school decides on half days, you could structure their morning with Phonics and challenges then set them a ‘play’ challenge for the afternoon at home - share news the next day. This could be adapted for whole days in school with an afternoon of outdoor play and exploration.
- **Cleaning** - The virus lives for about 6 hours on paper and clothing and up to 6 days on hard, flat surfaces. Clean these surfaces regularly with soapy water and have a rotation of books available for children.
- **Parents** - Let parents know all the measures you will be taking to protect their children. Find out what they feel their children need - is it exercise, reading, Phonics?
- **Limit screen time** - Screen’s will have become an integral part of many of our children’s lives over the past few months. Consider limiting their use in schools.
- **Be Careful** - Let’s be careful how we talk in front of these little people! We need for them to understand the importance of social distancing but not in a way that will terrify them. It’s important to be honest but not to scare them by talking too much about the virus. Be factual but then move on.
- **Protect Yourself** - Virus particles can spread when talking so try to keep your head above the little ones when they talk to you to help prevent the virus leaving their mouths and landing on your face.
- **Collection & drop-off** - Stagger times and create zones.
- **Mental Health** - Everyone’s mental health has suffered in the past weeks and months, both adults and children alike. Talk, talk, talk. Look online for Meditation, yoga, breathing exercises, and mindfulness activities. Songs and stories have never been more important both for escapism and therapy.