



Blackpool SEND Service Newsletter

Supporting schools and home learning for children and young people with Special Educational Needs.

7th July 2020

This is the final edition of our weekly newsletter before the summer holidays. We hope you have found them useful and informative. We will continue to send out newsletters in the new academic year on a half termly basis. We will continue to share them with schools who will then share them with you. The content from the newsletters will continue to be shared on the Blackpool SEND Local Offer page on Facebook as well as the fyi directory which can be accessed using the following link.

<https://www.fyidirectory.co.uk/kb5/blackpool/directory/localoffer.page?directorychannel=2&district=blackpool>

Useful Numbers and Websites

Corona Kindness - If you need any support at this time or feel you are in a position to offer help please contact the corona kindness team at helpneeded@blackpool.gov.uk or helpoffered@blackpool.gov.uk
If you need help call 0808 1963080.
<https://www.blackpool.gov.uk/Campaigns/Coronavirus/Corona-Kindness.aspx>

 <https://www.blackpool.gov.uk/Residents/Health-and-social-care/HeadStart-Blackpool/HeadStart-Blackpool.aspx>
 <https://blackpoolbetterstart.org.uk/>

Staying safe at the seaside

As the holidays approach and many families may have plans to visit the beach, it is important for us to teach our children and young people about water safety. Discover the world of the RNLI and explore how to stay safe near the water with their free posters, activity sheets and colouring activities.

<https://rnli.org/youth-education/education-resources/activity-sheets-and-posters>

Watch this great water safety video <https://youtu.be/dlXpm86mU90>

Find more ideas and activities on the RNLI website <https://rnli.org/>



Returning to school

As we are hoping that all children will return to school in September, it is important to remember that returning to school after the summer break is often very challenging for children and young people. This is going to be even more challenging if they have not been in school since March. Take the time to talk to them about their worries. The following link will take you to a free course to help to you support your child in preparing for the transition back to school. [Click Here](#)

Over the last few months, the boundaries between public, private and personal space may have become blurred for our young people with ASD. As schools are starting to welcome back more pupils, and with social distancing in place, it could be useful to agree rules and recap what behaviour is appropriate in public and private spaces. It is important to explain what personal space is and to practice an appropriate space between the teenager with autism and different groups of people.

[Boundaries: Public, Private, Personal Space - Teenage Resource](#)

Activity Village have created a collection of fun school colouring pages, crafts, pintables and 'back to school' resources. <https://www.activityvillage.co.uk/school>

Just a reminder of activities linked to starting school on BBC Bitesize

Starting Primary School - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zhtcvk7/articles/znc9vk7>

Starting Secondary School - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zj2grj6>

Sensory Activities

Sensory Spectacle are a company supporting families and professionals with inspirational ideas to support children and young people with sensory processing. They will be running some Live sensory play sessions on Facebook. All play ideas are edible and the ingredients for each idea will be uploaded to all their social media pages. <https://www.sensoryspectacle.co.uk>



Speech, Language and Communication

Elklan are offering free resources to develop your child's communication skills. You have to create an account but once you've done that the resources are free and downloadable, covering a variety of topics. To access the free resources go to <https://www.elklan.co.uk/downloads/free-resources>

Emotional wellbeing

Sometimes anxiety can feel overwhelming or even cause panic attacks. Here are lots of activities you can try <https://parents.actionforchildren.org.uk/emotional-wellbeing/>

Summer Holiday Activities

As many attractions and family visitor centres are beginning to open again, families may still choose to spend most of the school holidays at home. Here are some links to some ideas of activities that you might want to try.

<http://www.beafunmum.com/2011/06/100-school-holiday-activity-ideas/>

<https://www.todaysparent.com/family/activities/fun-things-to-do-at-home/>

Have a wonderful summer break and stay safe.