



North Islington Nursery School

Remote Learning Policy

Rationale

Following a period of our school partially closing during the Spring and Summer Terms 2020 (due to COVID-19), North Islington Nursery School have developed a Remote Learning Policy to ensure that in the event of any future closures, children and their families will continue to be provided with supportive home learning materials.

Possible reasons for future types of closures:

- A long term whole school enforced lockdown
- A long term partially closed enforced lockdown
- Bubbles of children requiring to self isolate
- Short term staffing absence due to testing positive/needing to self isolate
- Longer term staffing absence due to testing positive/needing to self isolate

Schools' duty to provide remote education:

Where a pupil, class, group or small number of pupils need to self-isolate, or there is a local lockdown requiring pupils to remain at home, DfE expects schools to be able to immediately offer them access to remote education. Schools should ensure remote education, where needed, is high-quality and aligns as closely as possible with in-school provision. **This expectation only applies to school aged children.** However, at North Islington, we will strive to ensure that our remote learning provision enables parents to continue to support their children to actively engage in playful activities during times when they cannot come into school.

Flexible Learning

We understand that the circumstances that cause our school to close will affect families in a number of different ways. In our planning for remote learning we recognise that:

- Not all families have access to ICT
- Parents may be trying to work from home which limits the capacity to be able to support home learning
- Children may have additional needs which may make some types of home learning difficult to access
- Teaching staff may be trying to manage their own home situation and the home schooling of their own children
- Systems may not always function as they should

Expectations

We believe that young children learn best through child led play activities which develop a love for learning, curiosity and exploration. Our intentions for remote learning will still follow this ethos but will require parents/carers to be their child's play partner/teacher. The children at North Islington Nursery School are too young to access online learning alone and nor would we expect them to. Our intention is that our families will be provided with:

- Age appropriate home learning activity ideas for children and their parents
- Video links to staff delivering age appropriate stories, songs, dance and movement sessions
- Printable, differentiated activity cards for older children to complete set tasks which reflect the areas of learning within the Early Years Foundation Stage
- Links to age appropriate online learning sites

Remote home learning for our children at North Islington is not compulsory. We aim to provide learning opportunities for parents and carers to develop with their children at a time that is convenient and which is fun and engaging for all children. We do not want parents to feel pressured into completing activities but instead, to use the resources on offer in a way in which suits individual family needs.

Staff will:

- Provide daily home learning activity ideas for each classroom which will be shared by clicking on the home learning tab via the school's website
- Support individual parents by responding to messages within our normal opening hours 8am-6pm Monday- Friday
- Take regular breaks away from delivering online/remote learning activities to engage in other professional duties
- Share safeguarding or welfare concerns with the DSL as soon they become apparent

The Leadership Team will:

- Ensure that material is uploaded daily to the school's website
- Manage parent/carer concerns/queries regarding accessing the learning materials
- Provide paper copies of activity ideas for those families who are unable to access ICT
- Monitor the overall effectiveness of the remote learning offer through parental feedback and discussions with staff
- Monitor the safety of links shared to online learning sites
- Keep in touch with all families through weekly phone calls/emails
- Encourage parents/carers to ask for support when needed and signpost to the relevant agency if necessary
- Manage safeguarding or welfare concerns in an effective and timely way

Parents/carers and children will:

- Have access to age/stage appropriate learning materials to use and enjoy
- Have opportunities to deliver feedback on home learning activities via the school email and surveys that will be distributed during periods of school closures
- Know that they can continue to contact their child's key person or room lead via the school email address and telephone during normal opening hours
- Refrain from screenshotting or copying any information, messages or material onto social media
- Be provided with material to support their understanding of child development and age related expectations such as What to Expect When
- Be able to contact the school SENCO during her normal working hours, Monday-Thursday – 8am-4pm if they are concerned about their child's development or want to talk about any other issues related to their child's wellbeing such as sleep, dietary concerns
- Be mindful of mental wellbeing of both themselves and their child and try to take regular breaks and spend time outside if possible

