

Home Learning Support at The Wharf Nursery

At The Wharf it was really important for us to remain connected to our pupils and their families throughout the lockdown period. We set up several processes to help maintain the attachment and relationships that are so important to us, to let our families know we were still here for them:

- ✚ Telephone calls to check on welfare, answer questions and share concerns or worries, as well as to find out what was going well at home.

From here we offered support: by providing groceries from the food bank, by advising on websites which might help them cope with family life, being a friendly ear to listen, and much more!

- ✚ Regular story times posted online through our Tapestry Online Learning Journal. All our staff endeavoured to record and post stories so their key children could see and hear them!

- ✚ Topic Grids with activities which can be completed at home across all areas of learning. With some resources and ideas to develop and extend learning through play and support their children following their ideas and interests.

- We used topic ideas we know our children are interested in and where we can make use of the home and local environment.
- Topics ran for a week or more for families to access as much or as little as they could fit in with their family circumstances

- ✚ Story time posts were differentiated for our under 3's and SEN group

- ✚ During complete lockdown Key People also provided challenges to specific children in their Key Groups, taking their next steps into account

- ✚ Parents were encouraged to post pictures or descriptions of their children's home learning on Tapestry. Tapestry was monitored to provide feedback to parents on a regular basis.

- ✚ As children returned to nursery the online provision was maintained offering regular story-times and topic grids for home learning linked to the provision offered at nursery for returning children across all areas of learning.

- ✚ A bank of Story Time videos have been made available on our website, alongside a video giving information about starting nursery for new parents

- ✚ We regularly posted Messy Play ideas on our Facebook page for families with young children to do at home.

- ✚ Approx. 75-80 % of families made regular use of our online provision during lockdown, logging in regularly.

NB for those families who we knew had difficulty engaging with online resources, additional telephone contact was maintained wherever possible.

- ✚ In future, Zoom meetings for Key People and the parents of children in their key group, may be organised to provide a more interactive forum.

