

Remote education provision at Chelwood Nursery School.

Chelwood at Home; Learning and playing together

Information for families

This information is intended to provide clarity and transparency to our families about what to expect from the remote education offer at Chelwood Nursery School where national or local restrictions require entire cohorts (or bubbles) to remain at home during the Coronavirus Pandemic.

In setting up our home learning we have planned for both our school-based and remote learning environments to work hand in hand, providing continuity and security that will best support children's learning in these challenging times. This will ensure that any future bubble isolations, local or national lockdowns will be met with a quick, effective and planned response for learning to continue at home.

Our children are incredibly young, aged from 2 years to 5 years, therefore the key element of our approach must be to support families with ideas, inspirations and online resources that will support and empower them to have fun playing and learning together. To support our planning, we surveyed our families to gain their opinion of what approaches had been most helpful to them during the national lockdown from March to June 2020.

It is important for parents to know that Chelwood's remote learning offer is to help support children's general development and early education. There is no expectation that families should try everything. Young children will also be learning from playing with their toys, helping around the house and exploring the world around them when out for a walk.

Nursery education is valuable but not compulsory, and our aim is to encourage and inspire our families to support their children's home learning in an informal home context. It is not enforce engagement.

In developing our remote offer we have considered the harmful effects of extended screen time on young children's development, as well as issues of online safety. Families are signposted to support and information about how to keep our young learners safe online and how young children develop and learn.

For details of what to expect where individual pupils are self-isolating, please see the final section of this document.

The remote curriculum for home learning:

What does this look like for our very young children?

Remote learning at Chelwood includes our 'Chelwood at Home' a password protected learning environment and also play-based learning inspiration on the schools' social media. Facebook and YouTube

It also includes non-screen-based strategies to support our remote learning at home including:

- Adding to their 'Look What I Can Do!' book
- Weekly contact telephone calls from the child's class team /Key Person.
- Daily Ideas for playful experiences inside and out, stories, songs, rhymes and recipes to enjoy together. These are accessed through our 'Chelwood at Home' pages with a 'taster menu' through our social media platforms.
- A remote learning resource pack of open-ended resources and ideas stimulus, for families to use together.
- A fortnightly Learning at Home leaflet of further ideas and fun challenges.
- Information leaflets for families, that explain how to enjoy different aspects of the curriculum at home, and how to support a child's emotional well-being, learning and development.
- Evening family zoom meets that explain how to enjoy different aspects of the curriculum at home and how to support your child's emotional well-being, learning and development and which provide a forum for asking questions.
- Small group interactive zoom sessions for children and parents, with classmates and members of their class team.

What should I expect from immediate remote education in the first day or two of children being sent home?

Your child will be sent home with their 'Look What I Can Do!' book and their Lending Library bag and book if they are at school.

Our Online resources will be available to you and you will be reminded how to access them.

Following the first few days of remote education, will my child be taught broadly the same curriculum as they would if they were in school?

Young children learn best through play, supported by interested adults.

Throughout their time at Chelwood the children will learn through active and investigative play both inside and outside.

Through their play the children explore and develop learning experiences, which help them make sense of the world.

They practise and build up ideas and learn how to control themselves and understand the need for rules.

They have the opportunity to think creatively alongside others as well as on their own.

They communicate with others as they investigate and solve problems, making and testing predictions.

They express fears or re-live anxious experiences in controlled and safe situations and they develop an understanding of and respect for the needs and emotions of others.

Our remote learning offer is designed to support families in maximising these learning opportunities, both through play and through everyday tasks and routines. The suggestions are open-ended and designed to cover all areas of learning.

Accessing remote education

How can we access any online remote education you are providing?

The **'Chelwood At Home'** online pages are designed to help families to continue their child's early learning, and keep connected to the school's expertise and support.

'Chelwood At Home' is virtual version of our nursery school learning environment where families can 'check in' with their class team, and then explore the learning opportunities across the webpages to give families ideas of fun, playful things to do at home.

Each child and family on the schools roll, will receive a unique log-in and password to access these Chelwood at Home online learning resource pages.

All of the online resources are designed to give families short ideas of things that could be fun for you to explore as a family, away from your phone, laptop or tablet.

At Chelwood we are very mindful of limiting screen time for young children and would recommend that only looking at one or two clips at a time and then coming away from the screen to try out the ideas yourselves in your home or outside.

A nursery child's brain is making around 1000 new neural connections a minute, their muscles and their bones are growing, they are biologically programmed to move, explore, play and learn. They are not yet ready to sit still, their learning takes place through movement, and this movement is building their brain.

A taster menu of play based activity ideas is posted daily on a our of social media platforms for families to access:

- **Facebook @ChelwoodNurserySchool**
- **YouTube Chelwood Nursery School**
- **Instagram ChelwoodNurserySchool**

Each day during a lockdown or the self-isolation of a bubble, there will be new stories, songs, rhymes, activities and physical play ideas for you to do at home with your child and outside in the garden or on your daily exercise.

Children will be able to see the familiar faces of the adults in their class, and across the school. Families will also receive a regular weekly contact phone call with their key person or another class team member, which will enable the school to provide content that reflects the interests, enthusiasms and needs to the children.

There are also a back catalogue of staff-recorded videos on our YouTube Channel for families to explore.

There is also a wide range of information and support for families available on the school website: <https://www.chelwood.lewisham.sch.uk/>

If my child does not have digital or online access at home, how will you support them to access remote education?

We recognise that some children and families may not have suitable online access at home.

We take the following approaches to support those children and families:

- Please contact us if you do not have enough data to access our online provision.

There are some grants available which you may be eligible for.

- We also provide doorstep deliveries of practical, open ended resources and lots of ideas that do not need online access. When your Key person calls you, let us know if there are additional resources that you need, or if you need any advice. If you do, a Senior Leader will contact you for a chat.

Support for pupils with additional needs

How will you work with me to help my child who needs additional support?

We have a highly personalised curriculum, and we will continue to be thinking about the needs and interests of all of our children when planning our remote learning.

Your Key person, Class teacher/Team Leader , and Michaela our Inclusion Leaders and SENCO, will continue to be in touch with you to provide bespoke ideas and advice.

Remote education for self-isolating pupils

If my child is not in school because they are self-isolating, how will their remote education differ from the approaches described above?

Scenario 1: School is open to all children and families.

Strategy: Families will have access to our 'Chelwood at Home' online provision, and ideas via our social media.

Families are encouraged to borrow and add to their child's 'Look What I Can do!' book and their Library bag with a story book.

Scenario 2: Some children may have to be at home for a couple of days awaiting a test result, or 10-14 days due to Covid related absence. A child or family who are not well would not be expected to engage with home learning.

Strategy: The child's key person will maintain contact with the child and family.

Families will have access to our 'Chelwood at Home' resources and ideas through our social media.

Scenario 3: A bubble of children needs to isolate or there is a local or national lockdown and the school is closed for a period of time. *A child or family who are **unwell** would not be expected to engage with home learning.*

Strategy: The child's key person will maintain contact with the child and family through phone calls. The class teacher will coordinate ideas for home learning on our 'Chelwood at Home' pages on a weekly basis. Families will be encouraged to feedback on what they have been doing and share photos for our class gallery and for families to add to their child's 'Look What I Can Do!' book.

Packs of home learning resources will be provide for families to use at home.

Additional ideas will be available through the school's social media

Note:

Some families may not have internet access and so will not be able to access resources online. Key people will continue to support all families through their phone calls and will keep a note of those that are unable to. These families will be provided with doorstep deliveries of additional resources and supported with extra phone calls.