



Dear Parents and Carers

Happy New Year to all of you from the whole of the Mayfield Nursery School staff team. We hope you had a peaceful and healthy festive season.

It is not the start of 2021 that we were hoping for. As you know from 5<sup>th</sup> January to 29<sup>th</sup> January we can only look after children of key workers and vulnerable children. If it is possible for children to be at home during this exceptional period, until we reopen more fully, then they should be. We are following the Scottish Government guidance. All this is public and I have included a link to the latest updates for you. We have the same information that is available to everyone.

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-early-learning-and-childcare-services/>

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-childcare-provision-2021/>

We continue to provide support for children and their families who are at home. At the moment we are **supporting children's learning at home** in the following ways:

- Each week a home learning activity pack will be delivered to you at home. This will include some resources for your child to use at home. These activities are open-ended and children will use them in different ways. We delivered similar packs during the last lockdown and the feedback from families was that these were very popular and useful. We hope you and your child will enjoy these packs.
- Each week day we will be posting a home learning suggestion for you to do with your child at home on Twitter and on the Mayfield Nursery School website. You can find us on Twitter by downloading the Twitter app and searching for @Mayfield\_ns The following link will take you to the Home Learning page on our website - <http://mayfieldns.mgfl.net/home-learning/>
- If you would like to share a photo or some information about your child engaged in learning at home you can send photos and information into us on the nursery email address - [Mayfield.NS@midlothian.gov.uk](mailto:Mayfield.NS@midlothian.gov.uk)
- You can also share photos of your child and a short message on Twitter by tagging us in your Tweet using @Mayfield\_ns
- Any photos sent to us can be printed out for your child's learning book at nursery so do please share what your child is doing at home.
- If you have any questions about learning at home you can phone us at the nursery on 0131 271 4720 or you can email us on the nursery email address.

As we did during the last lockdown we will also be **phoning every family to check-in** with you. This was a lovely way for us to keep in touch last time and we enjoyed speaking to all the families we spoke to between March and June. If you have a question or a concern you can phone us at anytime. Please do not hesitate at all, we are here for you and it is our pleasure to speak to you.

At the bottom of this email I have included the links to some useful websites for parents and carers.

Please do get in touch with us if you need to speak to someone or if there is anything we can help you with. We are missing having all the children in at nursery. Thank you all for your support and care during this very difficult time.



I have included the following picture by the artist Charlie Mackesy because it reminds me that whilst things are hard, focussing on small pleasures has the power to uplift. Last time during lockdown, the delight of keeping connected through phone calls and photos was hugely uplifting for us at Mayfield Nursery School. We are here with you.

With very best wishes to you all

lisabarnes

Lisa Barnes

Head Teacher

### Useful Websites for Parents and Carers

- A [Parent Club COVID-19 internet microsite](#), which contains advice on working from home whilst caring for children, advice on helping children with remote and blended learning as well as links to advice and support resources for parents of children with additional support needs.
- Education Scotland's [Parentzone Scotland](#) website includes advice for parents, families and practitioners on supporting children and young people's learning during COVID-19.
- The [National Parent Forum Nutshell guide on blended learning](#), published in August 2020. This joins further Nutshells on [Supporting Learning at Home during "lockdown"](#) and on [online safety](#).
- Education Scotland's [Scotland Learns](#) initiative provides newsletters and online resources for teachers and for parents/carers.