

Support for Parents

Parents of children with SEND - FAQ's in response to the coronavirus (COVID – 19) pandemic

Q: Can my child's EHCP paperwork still be submitted by my child's Nursery SENCo and will the assessment go ahead?

A: Yes, it can still be submitted and the SEND assessment service is working as functionally as possible given the circumstances. Contact your child's nursery for reassurance about the application and if you have further concerns, Bolton Information and Advisory service should be able to help. You can text them on 07467943495, email on iasoutofhours@outlook.com or go to their website www.iasbolton.com

Q: My child is concerned about the Coronavirus and is constantly asking about it.

A: This is a worrying time for us all please continue to reassure your child as well as you can whilst sharing some of the excellent explanatory resources available online and on YouTube. The Bolton SEND team have created these which may help too:

[Corona story](#)

[Corona Support](#)

Stick to simple, clear words / phrases and focus on the positives whilst avoiding listening to the news when your child is present. Furthermore distraction is usually the best way to take a child's mind away from something that is worrying them.

Q: My child's routine has altered so much I am worried that things will be really difficult for him when he goes back to nursery.

A: Changes in routine can be disruptive to children at the best of times, creating a new daily routine within the home might be reassuring for your child and help him to understand what to expect next. Even if your child understands what you are saying pictures can make a timetable easier to understand so a picture timetable of the day might help with your new routine. Don't worry about printing and laminating these. Simple pictures drawn onto card can have the same effect. Please see the example below of a home-made timetable and have a go yourself. As long as you use the same pictures consistently these will work as well as any.

[Positive strategies](#)

[Now and next](#)

Q: My child is having lots of tantrums and they seem to have got worse, how can I help her?

A: Her tantrums are a form of communication to you, whilst it is frustrating when you don't know what she is trying to communicate always try to remain calm and think about what she is trying to tell you. Often you can eliminate some frustrations by having a clear routine through the day (see previous question) sometimes pre warning a child that something is about to end or that it is nearly time for something you need them to do.

Speak to your child's key person and ask them about what strategies are used in their setting to support your child when they become upset, how they prevent it and respond to it when it happens.

[Positive Strategies](#)

[Now and next](#)

[Countdown](#)

[Traffic lights](#)