

The TLC Nursery Federation

Interim Headteacher: Mrs Aisha Lateef



Slough Centre Nursery School

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Remote Learning Offer

Our core nursery values are: Community, Nurture, Empowerment, and Adventure.

It is our intention to provide a curriculum which enhances and broadens experiences and opportunities for all children across the seven areas of learning. Our curriculum is designed to offer a range of experiences which engage, enthuse and enlighten. Our intention is to provide a culture of curiosity through magical moments: to widen horizons, tap into potential and instill ambition.

Staff at the TLC Federation know that our young learners flourish through a play-based approach. Play supports children to make sense of the world around them and their place within it. We promote quality first teaching using a variety of both specific and open-ended resources, in an environment designed to support children's self-esteem whilst fostering curious minds. In school, staff scaffold learning experiences through being a good role model with vocabulary being used carefully used to support, engage and challenge. When children present ideas to us, we promoting critical thinking, such as 'What would happen if we....?' and 'I wonder if we could try...?'

As parents you will know and understand your child better than anyone else. We know that you share our ambition for children to have the qualities needed as they grow and develop to be a good citizen. We appreciate that remote learning is not the same as attending nursery school, but when working in partnership with home, it can prove to be an excellent alternative when required. Please do not worry if you don't have access to certain resources, you can usually be creative with everyday items from your home, for example, if a 'Song time' session involves using claves, you could use to spoons instead. We can usually think of a good alternative if you are struggling.

The amount and frequency of remote learning on offer will depend on whether the nursery is fully open, partially open or fully closed.

We have outlined our remote learning offer through the use of a 'frequently asked questions' format.

For children not attending face to face provision:

How can I best support learning at home as a parent?

What young children need most from their families, is time, an interest in the things that they are interested in and conversations. Please don't put

Sharing, Caring and Learning Together



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yourself under too much pressure with 'home learning.' The activities and resources provided are meant to be fun play activities for you and your child to do together and some that they may be able to do more independently. Playing will develop their learning. Enjoy this time, if you can, but make sure you give yourself some time too.

Children in the early years learn most effectively through their own self-directed play, often by doing real-life practical activities alongside family members.

Young children learn with what is around them - their exploration and investigation does not need costly resources. The most powerful resource is caring adults who are listening and playing, providing a sense of warmth and reassurance.

In addition, there are lots of things you can do as parent that will help:

- ✓ Involve your child in simple everyday activities and let them help at a level that is suitable and safe for them (e.g. helping to mix ingredients when cooking, or helping to sort the washing when it's done).
- ✓ Join your child when they are playing with their toys and follow their lead, join in with what they are doing and copy their ideas or show them how they can play with new toys if they are unsure what they need to do. If you show genuine interest in what they are doing and can make simple comments about what is happening you'll be helping them to enjoy learning whilst developing their vocabulary and thinking.
- ✓ Try to go outdoors when you can with your child. Young children find fascination in all sorts of everyday occurrences. When you are walking out and about simply talk to them about what you can see and what is happening around them.
- ✓ Try to share a book with your child each day and read to them. You can point out the pictures and label things you can see as well as talk about what is happening in the story. If you use electronic formats and let your child watch stories, be sure to watch one with them each day so you can talk to them about it. This enhances the learning and ensures the activity is not completely passive for the child.



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What sort of things might the nursery be able to offer for home learning experiences to assist parents if their child is unable to attend the nursery?

The government has asked schools to provide suitable home learning opportunities for children if any disruption is caused to face to face education from the global pandemic. This is especially useful if a child must self-isolate or if the school has partial or full closure for any period of time.

Our home learning offer consists of four elements:

1. Website

Resources are found by navigating to our 'noticeboard' tab to access the 'home learning' section.

- We have several links to high quality resources and activities you can complete with your child at home. These are specifically aimed at early years.
- We post the rhymes for the term and core book story map on our website.
- We post photos of any special events and festivals in our photo gallery for parents to share and discuss with their child.

2. Facebook

Currently suspended as nursery is open

3. Resource Library

Currently suspended as nursery is open

4. Key person contact

If your child is not attending nursery for an extended period (three weeks or more) during a national lockdown your child's key person will maintain regular contact.

- Telephone call to support wellbeing and engagement with home learning.

How can we share our home learning with the nursery?

Including evidence from nursery and home together allows us to more fully document learning and to build a holistic picture of development for each child. This will then help us to plan effective experiences and ensure relevant learning opportunities for when your child does return to nursery.

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You can get involved by using the EExAT app through your personal login. You can share your own photos and short videos from home with your child's teacher/key person to let them see activities and learning that has taken place with you. The EExAT system is designed to capture key moments of your child's learning and development, so don't feel pressured to share everything your child does. Instead you can select just a few special learning moments.



Remember, you will also have regular contact with your child's key worker on the telephone and you can discuss learning that has taken place with them at this time too.

How will you ensure the learning is suited to the developmental stage of the children?

We know that children in the early years learn best when they can pursue their interests, explore and investigate through play and learn in a multi-sensory way with the input of caring and sensitive adults to support them.

As such, we will provide tips, ideas, and activity suggestions that don't use too much screen time or allow the learning to be completely passive. So, we strongly encourage you to watch any videos with your child, talk to them about what they see and help them to join in. We usually offer follow up activities or ideas to extend the learning that you can do together with your child relating to any recorded learning we have posted to add an active element to it. We will endeavour to ensure our suggestions don't rely on you needing to buy anything in and where possible use everyday things that you will have in your home. The most important resource is you as a parent and we will work with you to provide suggestions of simple strategies and things you can do to effectively support play, learning and development.

For children who are attending face to face provision:

As parents, can we still be involved in our child's learning at nursery?

The government still advocates only allowing parents and other visitors on site when it is essential.

Unfortunately, at present it is not feasible for us to invite parents in for rhyme times, story times and festival celebrations as we previously would have done. However, there are alternative ways you can be involved:

- ✓ Take home a book from the class book box each day and share it with your child.
- ✓ Take home our termly rhyme book and sing the songs with your child.
- ✓ Take home the core book story map and retell it with your child.
- ✓ Watch videos we post demonstrating 'Makaton' signs for key vocabulary and use them when singing and telling stories with your child.
- ✓ Have a go at the special festival celebration activity we send home (for Diwali it was a salt dough recipe and tea light to make a diva).

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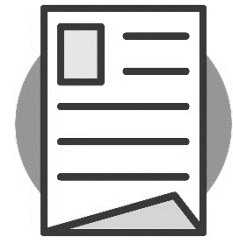
- ✓ View photos of celebration events on our website and talk about them with your child.
- ✓ Share any photos of your child celebrating special events with your family via the EExAT app or by emailing them to us (admin@slough-nursery.slough.sch.uk)

How will we be kept informed of events at nursery?

The government advises that parents should only be on site when necessary. This means that there is a limited opportunity for you to look at the noticeboards and displays in nursery.

We use electronic formats to share information about nursery with our parents. This includes text messaging and e-mail. This is how we will send you letters, notifications of events, reminders etc. It is important that you ensure your contact details are up to date so you can be sure you receive the information that is sent out.

We also send out a half termly newsletter and this is also posted on our website (www.sloughcentrenursery.co.uk).



Will I be able to talk to my child's key person if I have queries or to find out how my child is doing?

The government still advocates only allowing parents and other visitors on site when it is essential and to keep this to a minimum.

At drop off and pick up times it is important that we try to keep everyone moving and do not hold up other people unduly. If your query is just a matter of passing on a short piece of information or just clarifying something, then a quick exchange with the member of staff on the door is usually manageable and appropriate.

Our staff will not generally be able to stop and meet with parents at the door for longer conversations due to Covid restrictions. Also, at drop off, it is important that staff are available to be with the children in the class and at pick up that they are either with the children or able to complete additional cleaning required, reset the environment or complete other tasks necessary for their role.

The above measures, together with the way we are sharing learning via online platforms and sending text or email communications about other matters, should be sufficient contact in most situations.

Please also be assured that if we have any concerns or queries about your child that we will always contact you directly to discuss them.

If it occurs that you have a concern that is not covered through the measures already described, then it is most appropriate to speak with your key person initially. They may need to arrange a suitable time and safe way to discuss the matter if needed.

