Transition Resources

Staffordshire County Council's Recovery Plan has been devised in the context of COVID-19. This plan incorporates a number of projects across SCC services including the Educational Psychology Service to support educational settings in the aftermath of emergency restrictions. The EPS has devised materials in a number of areas with the aim of providing educational settings with support that can be accessed immediately in the new academic year, without the need to refer into the service directly.

AIM: This document aims to provide an overview of the resources and documents available to support transition to school for children and young people following school closures during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The documents have been organised into seven areas:

1. Transition packages and booklets

Title	Description
[Northamptonshire EPS: Transition document during and after the COVID-19 crisis](#)	Transition guidance on supporting young people start or return to school.
[Plymouth EPS: Guidance for Schools: Covid-19 Arrangements for Enhanced Transitions](#)	Transition guidance on supporting young people's start or return to school.
[BiBorough EPS: Transition resource for primary schools](#)	Transition, recovery and learning in the aftermath of a pandemic. A resource for nursery and primary schools.
[BiBorough EPS: Transition resource for secondary schools](#)	Transition, recovery and learning in the aftermath of a pandemic. A resource for secondary schools
[Wakefield EPS Return to School PowerPoint](#)	Advice for schools for transition and return to school following COVID-19.
[Sandon Primary Academy Video](#)	Video from a primary school about adaptations and measures they have put in place to support safe return to school.
[Cornwall Council Guidance](#)	Transition guidance for reception, year 11 pupils and for those moving from primary to secondary, following COVID-19.
[York EPS Guidance](#)	Advice and guidance on transitioning back to schools and settings following COVID-19, offering advice for senior leaders.

Enfield Council Guidance	Guidance on: Transitioning Back to School and Settings as Lockdown Lifts.
Cumbria EPS Guidance	Resources and guidance for transition after lockdown.

2. Government guidance

Title	Description
DfE: Coronavirus (COVID-19): Implementing protective measures in education and childcare settings	Government guidance around implementing social distancing and protective measures in schools and childcare settings.
DfE: Coronavirus (COVID-19): guidance for schools and other educational settings	Guidance and advice about coronavirus (COVID-19) in educational settings for staff, parents and carers, pupils and students.
DfE: Actions for schools during coronavirus outbreak	Guidance setting out the actions and principles DfE would like all schools to follow for reopening of schools on 1 June to priority year groups
DfE: Supporting vulnerable children and young people during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak-actions for educational providers and other partners	Guidance on supporting vulnerable children and young people during COVID-19 outbreaks and actions to be taken by schools and providers and partners

Title	Description
[DfE: Effective Pre-school, Primary and Secondary Education 3-14 Project](#)

(EPPSE 3-14 (Evangelou Taggart, Sylva, Melhuish, Sammons and Siraj-Blatchford) (2008) | This study was part of a major longitudinal study investigating the influence of pre-school, primary and secondary education on children's cognitive and social/behavioural development (EPPSE) in England. It set out to explore the transition experiences between primary and secondary school for 550 children and their families in England. The study adopted a mixed methods approach in order to investigate child, home, school and LA factors concerning transitions. |

3. Support for Teaching Staff/Schools/Professionals

Title	Description
[BPS Guidance: 'Talking to Children about Coronavirus'](#)	Advice for adults about talking to children about coronavirus.
[Suffolk Learning](#)	A team of staff, including clinical psychologists, have put together a support package in collaboration with the West Suffolk secondary schools they are working in. The support pack includes support for primary schools too:

	- Leadership Team briefing document - Welcome back guideline for staff - Back to school assembly for students
Association of Educational Psychologists	Information and resources specific to transition signposting to resources produced by authorities and schools
Star Stream Website	Range of Social Stories, Symbols, Worry Plans, transition guidance for schools and transition booklets for children to complete.
Creative Education	Provides videos and guidance to support implementing a safe, return to school using the SWAN framework
The Key – for school leaders	Top Tips for school leaders for talking to children about Covid-19
NCSEM (National Centre for Sport and Exercise Medicine)	Resources, videos and practice guidelines (parent leaflets available too). Supporting early years professionals with physical activity guidance and resources to help them lay the foundations for the future health and wellbeing of children in the early years.

[Leicestershire LA](#)	Questions which may support staff/educational professionals' knowledge, understanding and relationships with children and families who are involved in transitions to school
[British Association for Early Childhood Education](#)	Blog discussing developmentally appropriate key stage 1 curriculum. However, many of the ideas are transferrable for any transition. Key points: talk, interaction and play, establishing relationships and friendships. Covers how the social distancing restrictions may have impacted on children's physical development.
[Coram Life Education](#)	Free toolkit and book suggestions for return to school, with a specific section on 4-5 year olds
[Self-Care Tree for staff](#)	Document that details ways to manage stress at work and home during COVID-19.
[The Special Needs Jungle](#)	The special needs jungle website has compiled a range of resources that will be helpful for supporting children and young people with SEND. The page also contains a range of links to activities, resources

	and ideas relating to a range of topics including wellbeing, self-regulation, exercise, sensory and formal learning.
ELSA: Supporting social and emotional learning	Offer free and purchasable resources for schools to help support social and emotional learning, transition resources available on website.
CPD: Preparing Autistic and children with SEND for going back to school	Free online CPD course for teaching staff around considerations and planning for return to school for children with SEND following 'lockdown'
Southend EPS	Southend EPS have collated an extensive range of links and resources, including information on talking to children and young people about Coronavirus, information about emotional wellbeing and mental health, activities for teaching staff and other professionals and activities for families to enjoy at home.
Dr Karen Treisman- resources to support children and adults around anxiety, worry, stress, and fears; including resources specific to Covid-19	Free videos, worksheets, tips, tools, podcasts, and resources.
World Health Organisation (WHO):Key messages and actions for COVID-19 and prevention and control in schools (March 2020)	Short booklet with guidance which provides key messages and considerations for engaging school administrators, teachers and staff, parents, caregivers and community members, as well as children themselves in promoting safe and healthy schools.

Cognus Website (thinking about education)	See PowerPoint available for supporting pupils with Autism with transition following COVID-19.
Barry Carpenter Education www.barrycarpentereducation.com	Podcast and information on recovering curriculum for those transitioning back to school following COVID-19.
Anna Freud Centre: Mentally Healthy Schools • School-based risk factors: transitions • Coronavirus: Dealing with effects toolkit • Anna Freud: Supporting schools and colleges	Support and advice for primary schools, offering school staff information, advice and practical resources to better understand and promote pupils' mental health and wellbeing. Transition focussed information available below and resources/pdfs
BPS: Back to school: using psychological perspectives to support re-engagement and recovery	Guidance from the British Psychological Society. This guidance complements the UK and national government advice on the return to school for pupils by offering a psychological perspective on the process of re-engaging children and young people with school.
What you told us: Thoughts shared by children and young people about the current situation by Educational Psychology Reach-Out	Podcast that details research that explored the views of 700 primary, secondary, and college students around COVID-19 and returning to school/college. The research highlighted four key themes that children and young people discussed:

	Safety: Young people are worried about how they will be safe in school and what the rules will be. They want clear guidance in place and want to see measures are taken to ensure they are safe. **Relationships:** Peer, teacher and home relationships. Young people wanted time to reconnect with peers and teachers before going back to formal learning. They also spoke about missing home when they return to school. **Missed and New Opportunities:** Young people spoke about missed opportunities like Prom, SATs, and exams. They also discussed time to continue to pursue new opportunities like craft projects, being outdoors, and learning new games. **Certainty:** Young people wanted clarity about what was going to happen and wanted time to get ready to return to school. They wanted certainty around school expectations, classrooms, teachers for next year, and what exams in the future may look like.
[Staffordshire County Council Early Year's Case Studies](#)	Two case studies from Staffordshire Early Years settings showing how they have kept in touch with families and provided resources to support home learning.

4. Support for Parents/ Carers

Title	Description
BPS Guidance: 'Talking to Children about Coronavirus'	Advice for adults around talking to children about coronavirus.
Dr Karen Treisman-resources to support children and adults around anxiety, worry, stress, and fears; including those specific to Covid-19.	Free videos, worksheets, tips, tools, podcasts, and resources.
World Health Organisation (WHO): Key messages and actions for COVID-19 and prevention and control in schools (March 2020)	Short booklet with guidance which provides key messages and considerations for engaging school administrators, teachers and staff, parents, caregivers and community members, as well as children themselves in promoting safe and healthy schools.
Children's Mental Health Campaign	Resources for parents and children to support mental health, emotional well-being and awareness of coronavirus.
The Special Needs Jungle	The special needs jungle website has compiled a range of resources that will be helpful for supporting children and young people with SEND. The page also contains a range of links to activities, resources and ideas relating to a range of topics including wellbeing, self-regulation, exercise, sensory and formal learning.
Anna Freud Centre for families	Support and guidance for families to help manage coronavirus outbreak.

Zero to Three	Have an excellent range of resources for families with young children and toddlers. The resources include age-appropriate responses to common questions, a guide to self-care, and activities for young children experiencing social distancing.
Staffordshire County Council Lots of local advice and guidance to support families	**New Family Hubs** The eight Family Hubs are virtual spaces where local people can find information, advice and guidance, as well as connect with others in their area. The hubs will answer questions, help families find support and share ideas for coping with the changes coronavirus is making to our lives. Please like and share the Facebook pages to help families know we are here to help.
Public Health England	Guidance for parents and carers on supporting children and young people's mental health and well-being during the COVID-19 pandemic
Sue Cowley. Managing children's behaviour while at home	Support for parents regarding managing behaviour at home.
Early Years Alliance: Talking to children about Coronavirus.	Support for parents around talking to early years children about Coronavirus.

Early Years: Supporting Home Schooling	Case studies focussing on supporting children's learning at home and book sharing at home. Also 12 resources available to support learning at home.
Maudsley Charity: Supporting Behaviour	Website to support families with children's emotions and behaviour.
Greater Manchester Health and Social Care Partnership	A range of resources aimed at children and families including services available, how to talk about Coronavirus and bereavement, see the dedicated area on their mental health and wellbeing hub.

5. Resources for Children and Young People

Title	Description
Star Stream Website	Range of Social Stories, Symbols, Worry Plans, transition guidance for schools and transition booklets for children to complete.
Dr Karen Treisman-resources to support children and adults around anxiety, worry, stress, and fears; including specific COVID-19 info.	Free videos, worksheets, tips, tools, podcasts, and resources.
The Autism Educator	A coronavirus social story from The Autism Educator referencing social distancing and why we are unable to visit favourite places

Anderson Press: Staying at home downloadable story book	Book showing a family of racoons who are unable to attend nursery and have to stay at home
European Space Agency	The European Space Agency (ESA) has launched Expedition: Home where parents and kids can access plenty of space-based activities and keep learning from home
Dave the Dog, a storybook	Dave the Dog is worried about Coronavirus written by Molly Watts, a registered children's nurse
The Children's Commissioner	A simple presentation about the virus from the Children's Commissioner
Communication Friendly Environments	Blogs and tools (e.g. social stories) that are communication friendly focussing on topics such as social distancing and wearing masks.
Hope Clouds Activity	Planning activity for young people and teachers about their hopes when returning to school.
Headspace App	Guide to daily mindfulness activities.
Coronavirus Book by Manuela Molina	Illustrated book about Coronavirus for children.
NHS Self-Care Kit for Children	Document for children that explores managing their feelings and worries, and ways to relax.
Mindheart	Storybooks talking to children about coronavirus. Available in many different languages

Think Resilient- What Can I Control document	20-minute activity for young people to identify ways to look positively at challenges and minimise the negative effects of them.
Cosmic Kids Yoga	Yoga, Mindfulness and relaxation for Kids aged 3+.
Serpentine and the Magic Bubbles by Amanda Barass	Free book to support young children's emotional wellbeing as schools begin reopening.
Nottinghamshire EPS: Therapeutic Story	Therapeutic story to support primary-age children in exploring strong emotions linked to the coronavirus pandemic.
Reachout ASC Website	Reachout ASC is a centre of excellence for supporting pupils with Autism Spectrum Condition (ASC). The website offers resources on transitions to new classrooms.
Greater Manchester Health and Social Care Partnership	A range of resources aimed at children and families including services available, how to talk about Coronavirus and bereavement, see the dedicated area on their mental health and wellbeing hub.
Place2Be	Place2Be is a children's mental health charity that provides counselling and mental health support and training in UK schools. They have a dedicated area on their site with information on COVID-19.
42nd Street charity	42nd Street is an innovative Greater Manchester young people's mental health charity providing free and confidential services to young

	people who are experiencing difficulties with their mental health and emotional wellbeing.
NSW education department (Australia based but still has some useful resources for return to school)	Daisy's first day: a children's book about Daisy the koala on her first day at primary school
NSW education department	A special place: a children's book showing what it is like to go to school
Children's mental health campaign	Resources for parents and children to support mental health, emotional well-being and awareness of coronavirus.
Hungry Little Minds. Activities to help support parents when supporting their children whilst at home	All activities divided into ages 0-5. Supported by DfE. Primarily focussed on communication, speech and language. There is also a section signposting and offering links to other websites and recommendations of apps for early years.
BBC Activities to support parents to support their children whilst at home.	All activities divided into ages 0-5. Primarily focussed on support for communication, speech and language. Lots of great video clips and no expensive materials to buy.
Staffordshire County Council- Lots of activities to support children's learning at home.	Virtual support set up to enable parents to engage in home learning virtually via the Children's Centre pages with bedtime stories, singing sessions etc that support people to maintain these activities within the home.

Booktrust and BBC Audio Books	Range of audio books available that include songs and simple movements.
National Autistic Society	The NAS has compiled a range of information and resources to help those with autism and other communication difficulties during the pandemic

6. Early Years Support and Transition Guidance

Title	Description
Anna Freud National Centre for Children and Families	Support and guidance on how early years workers can help manage the transition back to nursery
BiBorough EPS: Transition resource for primary schools	Transition, recovery and learning in the aftermath of a pandemic. A resource for nursery and primary schools.
Herefordshire Council	Pre-school to school transition resource pack
Highland Council	Preschool to school resource pack for transition.
Kirklees Council	Preschool to school resource pack for transition.

Braishfield Primary School • [Starting School: A guide for Parents and Carers of Reception Children](#) • [School life booklet](#)	Preschool to school transition resource packs.
[Gloucestershire Council](#)	Reception to Year 1 transition resource pack
[Worcestershire Council](#) (download template)	Transition support for early years with complex needs
[Hungry Little Minds Activities to support parents to support their children whilst at home](#)	All activities divided into ages 0-5. Supported by DfE. Primarily focussed on support for communication, speech and language. Also, has a section signposting to other sites and recommendations of apps for early years.
[BBC Activities to support parents to support their children whilst at home.](#)	All activities divided into ages 0-5. Primarily focussed on communication, speech and language. Lots of great video clips and no expensive materials to buy.
[The Communication Trust Website](#)	This booklet provides information about what helps children aged 0-5 learn to talk and listen, whether they are on the right track and activities to try. Booklets available in other languages.

[Achievement for all Blog](#)	A useful blog for settings to consider how to support young children with transition from Reception to Y1.
[Early Years Alliance Website](#)	Information on communicating with parents whilst children are at home and offers some ideas to inspire from an early years setting.
[Staffordshire County Council Early Years Setting example](#)	Two case studies from Staffordshire Early Years settings showing how they have kept in touch with families and provided resources to support home learning.
[Early Education Case Studies](#)	Case studies supporting children's learning at home and book sharing at home. Also 12 resources to support learning at home.
[Booklet for parents: Meshguides and University of Chichester](#)	Parents' guide to supporting early learning – very detailed but could be used for ideas.
[Oxfordshire website to support early years transition during COVID-19.](#)	Points for settings and schools to consider for supporting transition during Covid-19. Examples of social stories.
[Early Education Website with blogs about current topics](#)	Things to think about for home learning for reception children
[Anna Freud Centre](#)	Supporting early years return to nursery following COVID-19.
[British Association for Early Childhood Education](#)	Guest Vlog: Positive thinking and time for reflecting – Helen Moylett

Title	Description
NSPCC	Campaign that encourages better brain development for under twos
NCSEM (National centre for sport and exercise medicine)	Resources, videos and practice guidelines, parent leaflets available too. Supporting early years professionals with physical activity guidance and resources to help them lay the foundations for the future health and wellbeing of children in the early years.

7. Secondary School Transition

Title	Description
BBC Transitioning to Secondary School Guidance	Online support around secondary school transitions- offering practical advice and emotional support.
Worcestershire Council	Transition packs available for primary and secondary school children.

Developed by: Katie Kemp and Litsa Cosma, Trainee Educational Psychologists
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