



Issue 5

Support during the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic

To support parents and carers of children with SEND during the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic we have put together some links to online resources.

(Please note that the apps must be downloaded onto a compatible device)

The links are split into 2 sections:

1. Resources that may help support you with your child's learning
2. Resources that may help you talk to your child about Coronavirus (COVID-19), staying at home and the extended break from school

Welcome to the LO Down - Merton's SEN and disability Local Offer newsletter.

The LO Down is a termly newsletter for parents and carers of young people and children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND).

Coronavirus (COVID-19) SEND guidance and support

Coronavirus SEND information

We have created an information page on the Local Offer to share resources and information that may be useful to families and those working with children and young people who have Special Educational Needs and Disabilities during the Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.

We are working with partners across Merton and London to ensure that children with SEND in Merton are supported during the coronavirus outbreak. We will add any relevant updates from specific services as they become available.

To view the information and guidance page, click the blue button above or click [here](#).

For information for all Merton residents regarding the coronavirus outbreak, please visit [Merton Council's Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) webpage](#).

Resources which may help you support your child's learning

[Brain Parade](#) is a visual instruction app, including flash cards and picture-choosing games, for children with autism and special needs.

[HelpKidzLearn](#) is a collection of games and resources designed for a range of educational needs and stages. It includes provision for school closure.

[Sensory App House Ltd](#) hosts a range of apps for pupils with Profound and Multiple Learning Difficulties (PMLD) or Severe Learning Difficulties (SLD). All are interactive and many do not require significant coordination abilities.

[Visuals2Go](#) is an all-in-one app created to support people with communication and learning difficulties. For verbal and non-verbal learners.

[Childmind coping during COVID-19](#) - Resources for parents.

Talking to your child about the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) outbreak

[Place2Be](#): Guide to helping parents answer questions from their children and to support family wellbeing.

[Young Minds](#): Talking to your child about coronavirus and 10 tips from their Parents Helpline to support family wellbeing.

[Covibook](#): An interactive resource to support and reassure children aged 7 and under, designed to help children explain and draw the emotions that they might be experiencing during the pandemic.

[Coronavirus explained using images and Makaton](#) This link takes you to a video on the INEQE website

[COVID-19 social story for children with SEND, explaining what it is all about and the schools having to close](#) This is a link to the website TES, which has useful resources for parents and teachers. The website is free to join and many of the downloads are free to download, including this one.

Your Views

We would really like to receive any feedback or ideas about the Local Offer that you may have. If you know of any services that you think should be added to the Local Offer or would like to comment on any information on the website, please contact us at localoffer@merton.gov.uk

If you do not wish to receive any future editions of the LO Down newsletter, simply email us at localoffer@merton.gov.uk

