

The Impact of COVID-19

on Young Children, Families and Teachers

Defending the Early Years' Recommendations

Don't Try to Replicate School at Home

Remote schooling should **not mean that we expect children to do the same things they did in school** at home. For children, their families, and their teachers to gain benefits from online learning/remote schooling, we must separate the functions of traditional schooling from the realities of remote learning.



Use Screens and Technology Sparingly and Wisely

We should not expect young children to spend more than 30 minutes per day, a few days a week on technology. **We do not recommend longer remote schooling sessions that include online teaching for young children.** There should be brief opportunities to connect with their teacher and classmates that are engaging and developmentally appropriate.



Prepare Children To Be Self-Directed Learners

Instead of expecting children to passively receive hours of online teaching a week, **we must reconceptualize the curriculum** to allow for children to learn on their own at home. We must help children learn how to be accountable for their own learning through **reflection** and **self-assessment**.



Take Advantage of Being Out of School

Out-of-school time must mean more time for **play!** All children learn through play and, now that they are not physically going to school, they should be **playing** as much as possible every day.

Parents and Teachers Must Work Together

Parents need teachers, and teachers need parents now more than ever. **Together, we must make room for the various needs of children to take precedent.** What all children need is the flexibility to adapt to the new reality.



To Learn More

You can locate our full report and findings by visiting us at: <https://dey.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/The-Impact-of-COVID-19-on-Young-Children-Families-and-Teachers-A-DEY-Report-9-8-20-FINAL.pdf>.

These recommendations are based on the findings of our COVID-19 survey and grounded in child development research and hope they will provide guidance to both parents and teachers of young children.