

RELATIONSHIP RATIONALE

Following a period of crisis connectedness is core to supporting positive well-being and future outcomes. This is increasingly important as this period requires that we find new ways to connect and develop relationships in an era of social distancing and social restriction



TIPS

- Develop 'corridors of connectedness' - the term being used to encourage children to connect to each other but, with social distance in mind. the metaphor also encourages the idea of 'opening doors' in the corridor, friends will find that some of the things have been difficult and some of have been great but, whatever they have experienced/ are experiencing they can remain connected to each other.
- Encourage team activity that also maintains social distancing where possible e.g. making up a dance, song or poem that relates to their experiences
- Create a bubble identity, slogan, emblem, rules and expectations
- Create poster book of messages that children feel are currently important to them and their experiences – can be created into class resource
- Operate a teacher drop in session at break/lunchtime or other feasible point in day. Initially this could have allocated slots to touch base individually with each child and subsequently become a drop in option if children require it
- Encourage new connections and opportunities for friendships through random selection of groups etc. consider providing opportunities for children who may have had similar experiences

FURTHER WORK/ACTIONS IF REQUIRED

Create care partners – children have an identified other to keep an eye on and support, allocate at random where feasible; monitor social communication levels of children and presentation of anxiety; address worries through a worry box mechanism scheduled at least once weekly; note and report any significant behavioural change or patterns of withdrawal