



# Deerhurst and Apperley Church of England School

Apperley  
Gloucester  
GL19 4DQ

Telephone: 01452 780374

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Headteacher: Mrs Jayne Naveu, BA [Hons] NPQH

[www.deerhurst.gloucs.sch.uk](http://www.deerhurst.gloucs.sch.uk)

## ***Learning and living as children of God***

*(Ephesians 5:1) (You are God's children whom he loves. Try to be like God)*

Dear Parents, Carers, Staff and Governors,

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2020

### **Update and Home learning**

I can't believe that it has now been four weeks since we temporarily closed the school; it feels like so much longer. I hope you have all managed to have a Happy Easter. We have been working in school over the Easter period to support the children of Key workers who themselves have also been working. It is certainly a strange time.

We gave you packs of home learning when the schools did eventually close and I know that you have all probably been balancing doing that with other things at home. You've probably been out in the garden making the most of the weather!

I have reviewed the home learning situation again and staff have prepared summer home learning for you which has either gone onto class tabs or sent via email, or indeed both (by the end of today). We will also continue to send out home learning links which many companies are doing to support parents currently. The BBC has now opened opportunities for learning. Please visit <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>. It has regular daily lessons to support your children's home learning and also lots of ideas and support for you at this time. It is there to complement the home learning we are sending out to you if you wish to use it.

Please feel free to send in your pictures of home learning so we can share them on the website. Just email them into [admin@deerhurst.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:admin@deerhurst.gloucs.sch.uk).

Staff will be writing to their pupils today to just say hello and make contact. I hope you and the children enjoy the messages in the letters.





It is also lovely to see so many of you appreciating the cross and rainbow on the hedge. It is there to give us all hope at this grim time.

## **Reminders**

COVID 19 iv Government guidance

There is some updated guidance for parents - it can be found here

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers>

Please do make sure you are keeping up-to-date with Government guidance.

All of us should be staying at home unless it is for one of the agreed reasons to be going out.

Coronavirus (COVID-19): what you need to do

Stay at home

- Only go outside for food, health reasons or work (but only if you cannot work from home)
- If you go out, stay 2 metres (6ft) away from other people at all times
- Wash your hands as soon as you get home
- Do not meet others, even friends or family. You can spread the virus even if you don't have symptoms.

## **Free School Meals**

The local authority are still taking new applications for free school meals. As people's work and financial circumstances change over the coming months, you may wish to make an application for free school meals. This might also apply to families who have been used to getting Universal Free School Meals for their child in EYFS or a KS1 class, and you want to see if you are eligible to further support.

It's a very simple online process, using the same portal you would have used to apply for a place at school.

The link is <https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/education-and-learning/school-transport-and-free-school-meals/apply-for-free-school-meals> you will also be able to find the eligibility criteria here too. The link is also on our website under parent information.



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Furthermore, I recognise the financial pressure that some families will be under right now. I have applied to Tewkesbury Trussell Trust for Foodbank vouchers and I do have a few if you feel it might help you. Please email in, it will be in strictest confidence. Often, having a Foodbank voucher means that you can have money left over to pay essential bills. I don't want any family to feel they have to struggle.

You may have heard talk of money vouchers and care packages, these are for means tested families in receipt of benefits related Free School Meals, they are not applicable to everyone. However, if you have experienced changes in your circumstances it might be that you consider looking at the link above.

These are the links I sent out recently to support you or anyone in your family at this time:

<https://www.annafreud.org/what-we-do/anna-freud-learning-network/coronavirus/>

Public Health England has also published [guidance on supporting children and young people's mental health.](#)

I have no doubt that many of you are using laptops, tablets etc more now than at any other time. Please remember that criminals are using this as an opportunity to access any vulnerable groups. Please look on our website for help with keeping safe on line and the recent links I sent out to you for guidance.

Further support for keeping safe online is available here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-keeping-children-safe-online/coronavirus-covid-19-support-for-parents-and-carers-to-keep-children-safe-online>

## Communicating with the school

Reach us is via email. [admin@deerhurst.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:admin@deerhurst.gloucs.sch.uk) This will continue to go directly to the school office or our usual number 01452 780374. Both Mrs Mottram and myself will access the admin emails. Please note these emails will not be monitored over the weekends so any sent over that period will be picked up on Monday mornings, which is usual.



**Key workers and other children attending school for emergency childcare provision**  
that need to contact me urgently please email [head@deerhurst.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:head@deerhurst.gloucs.sch.uk)

### **Story Time**

It is our intention to send out an email each Friday for use as story time with the children. Staff will be reading stories so children can sit and listen and see familiar faces. Look out for the email Friday! We hope they enjoy them.

Prayers and thoughts for all of you and your families at this time,  
Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Mrs Neveu', enclosed in a thin rectangular border.

Mrs Neveu

