

Friday 3rd April 2020

Dear Parent

Good afternoon. I hope week two has gone well as we all adjust to life at home. You all continue to be in our thoughts each day as we work through this situation.

I have written to you regularly to keep you updated as the situation has evolved. Thank you for taking the time to read all our communications carefully. This is my final letter of the term ahead of the Easter break.

As well as this letter for parents, there is also a letter for the children attached to the email. I would be most grateful if you help your child or children access it. Thank you.

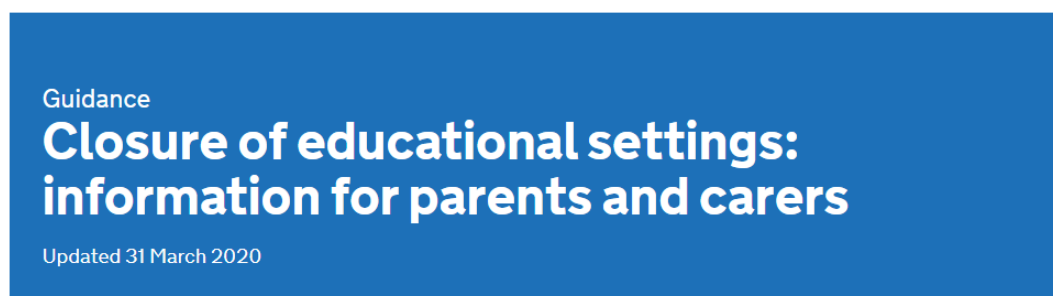
Below is a short summary of the key latest guidance with which I am sure you are becoming familiar;



Click on this link for -

[Full guidance on staying at home and away from others](#)

In the last letter, we offered some tips around online and digital safety. The Department for Education has now produced information on this topic also.



6.3 Where can I go to get support to help keep my child safe online?

There is a lot of support available to keep your child safe online. Below are some useful links to help parents and carers:

- [Thinkyouknow](#) (advice from the National Crime Agency to stay safe online)
- [Internet matters](#) (support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online)
- [Parent info](#) (support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online)
- [LGfL](#) (support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online)
- [Net-aware](#) (support for parents and carers from the NSPCC)

The full DfE guidance for parents in relation to coronavirus can be found at - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers>

Lovely News



We are delighted to tell you we have been awarded £370 from Waitrose Community Matters scheme for Early Years outdoor equipment. Many thanks to Waitrose and to Mrs Lee who arranged for us to be considered. A huge thank you also to everyone who put their tokens in for us. We look forward to purchasing our new equipment when we return.

Welcome Back



Mrs Curtis will return from her maternity leave after the Easter holidays. I would like to say a big thank you to Mrs Harrison for all her hard work and dedication as she covered for Mrs Curtis. I am sure you will join me in wishing Mrs Harrison well as she starts her new job.

We are delighted Mrs Curtis is returning to the Federation team. She has worked at Spofforth for 12 years and is an outstanding Early Years teacher.

Supporting Children & their learning at home

A huge thank you to everyone for the support given to the children as we have all adapted to supporting children's learning at home. We hope the steps we have taken to support this have provided help and guidance with equal measure of reassurance.

To ensure everyone is able to have a rest over the holiday we will not be sending ideas, suggestions and work over the Easter holiday. I have included some challenge and exploration ideas in my letter to the children, which I hope they find of interest.

Assuming schools are still closed at the start of the summer term we will return to providing ideas, suggestions and work after the holiday.

We have reviewed how this has worked so far and taken on board feedback from parents and children. Many thanks for the many kind messages and supportively worded feedback. Overall, we feel the systems are working well given the circumstances.

We have discussed possible adaptations to supporting learning at home taking in to account the uncertainty around the length of school closures. We will update you further on these at the start of the new term.

A Message from Harrogate Sports Partnership



Dear parents

real PE at home includes an online programme which supports families to be active, play and learn together. It includes a programme specifically for children in:

Early Years and Key Stage 1 with 12 themes, 6 areas, over 250 activities and challenges and 1000s of hours of fun and activity. This programme is also great for family play and fun.

A programme for **Key Stage 2**, with daily and weekly guidance provided for both programmes (starting from next week) in addition to an option to choose your own themes and activities.

There are so many benefits to being active, not only to our physical wellbeing but also to our emotional and mental health, especially in such testing times for all of us. We hope that the ideas help support you and your family to stay fit and healthy in the coming months.

Here are the details to access this free **real PE** at home resource:

Spofforth

The website address is: home.jasmineactive.com

Parent email: parent@spofforthc-1.com

Password: spofforthc

Follifoot


The website address is: home.jasmineactive.com

Parent email: parent@follifootc-19.com

Password: follifootc

As well as access to real PE, there is the Personal Best Physical Challenge -

<https://www.harrogatesp.com/home-personal-best-challenge/>



Day 1

Personal Best Physical Challenge

Personal best is where you improve your personal performance and reaching your individual goals


Day 1 Physical Challenge – Speed Bounce
Reception - How many speed bounces can you do in 10 seconds
Key Stage 1 - How many speed bounces can you do in 15 seconds
Key Stage 2 - How many speed bounces can you do in 20 seconds

The aim of the activity:

- You should jump from side to side over the wedge

Easier:

- For younger children: Let them bounce on the spot, then jump sideways over the wedge, then bounce on the spot, then sideways back over the wedge and so on.
- Make a smaller wedge or even use a line



Body


- Bounces are smooth
- Hips stay level, legs move
- Focus on a forward point
- Arms help with your balance
- Start carefully and build a rhythm

Safety


- Don't do this on a slippery floor.
- Don't use anything hard or that could roll for your wedge.

As you are at home, please see below how you can make your own speed bounce

Equipment required:



Stop watch



Rolled up towel

Adapting your equipment:

- Stop watch – check a mobile phone to see if it has a stop watch.
- You could make your own wedge using a towel, roll it up.

First score	Best Score

Take a photo / video and show us how you are doing via twitter @HarrogateSSP

You can find other activities by visiting: <https://www.harrogatesp.com/physical-activity-2/>
Don't forget to write down your scores on your April recording sheet which can be downloaded from <https://www.harrogatesp.com/home-personal-best-challenge/>

Essential Critical Workers

It is very clear from all the guidance that everyone who can stay at home should do so.



This has been further reinforced by Stuart Carlton Director of Children and Young Peoples Services in North Yorkshire who stated;

- 1. If it is at all possible for children to be at home, then they should be.**
- 2. Keyworkers must only send children to school when they are actually on rota working for the employer, not at other times.**
- 3. Keyworkers should not send them to school if their partner, or similar, is able to look after them.**
- 4. There is an expectation that if keyworkers are working from home the default should be to keep children there, rather than send them to school.**

As more companies scale back operations and allow staff to work from home we ask that particular attention is given to the third point made above.

Overall It would seem this key message is being understood and acted upon and for that we are incredibly grateful. In anticipation of your continued support of this I thank you.

To help us manage our care provision in school we are asking parents to support us by;

1. Emailing us by 1.00pm each day to inform us that they have no other choice but to use the provision the following day. This will help hugely with only bringing in necessary numbers of staff.
2. Collect children when you are able during the day when shifts finish.

Once again, thank you for your understanding in this very difficult situation. We must do everything we can as a community to help each other and keep us safe from harm.

Easter holiday provision for key workers

We are pleased to say that thanks to the kind offers of support from our small but dedicated team we are able to offer care provision at Spofforth School during the Easter holidays. This has been arranged based on the needs communicated to us by parents. On the basis of the information we have been given we will be open for each week day of the Easter holidays with the exception of the two bank holidays (Good Friday 10th April and Easter Monday 13th April) when school will be closed.

And finally...

Thank you again. Your patience, understanding and support have been amazing. We are all incredibly grateful for the kindness shown as we navigate this incredibly challenging situation.

I really hope you are able to have a restful couple of weeks and your families stay healthy.

Very best wishes.

Yours sincerely

Mr Paul Griffiths