

Government Guidance on the Coronavirus

As there are a growing number of cases in the UK, the government has published a [coronavirus action plan](#). This sets out what the UK has done, and plans to do further, to tackle the outbreak. Its strategy is to contain, delay, research and mitigate spread of the virus.

The government has stated as its understanding of the disease increases and its impact becomes clearer, it will issue further detailed advice about what to expect if/when further measures become necessary. The government is continuing to update the guidance for the public, [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): latest information and advice](#), on a daily basis, and other government advice on a regular basis, e.g. the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) [Travel advice: coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#).

The FCO's [Travel advice: coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#) provides advice for British people travelling overseas and the implications for travellers returning from certain specified countries/areas when they arrive in the UK. Those returning from Category 1 areas will be required to self-isolate and call NHS 111, even if they are asymptomatic. Travellers returning from Category 2 countries will also be required to self-isolate and call NHS 111 if they develop symptoms on return. Academies and maintained schools should flag this to pupils and staff, but be mindful the Category 1 and 2 country/areas are likely to change on a regular basis.

How to Maintain a Healthy School Community

While the number of the cases in the UK remains low, many schools have asked what measures they should put in place to protect their school community.

The government has produced [COVID-19: guidance for educational settings](#), which provides guidance for pupils, staff and parents/carers about the virus, how to help prevent the spread, and what to do if someone is confirmed or suspected to have COVID-19. It has also set up a coronavirus telephone helpline for anyone with education related questions. The school would also inform parents if we had any confirmed cases amongst pupils or staff.

Current government advice is, if anyone in the school has been in contact with a suspected case, there is no need to close the school or send pupils/staff home while the test results are awaited. If test results are positive, in most cases, closure will be unnecessary but this will be a decision for the school to take based on risk assessment and particular local factors. These may include the age range of pupils and size of school, advice received from the local health protection authority, and medical advisors and insurers.

Values Education

The value this term is RESPONSIBILITY. Please continue to send us your photographs via the website which depict children taking on a particular responsibility. We will share these in whole school assemblies.



Sport Relief

All week, children and adults at school have been taking part in additional opportunities to exercise. This will conclude on Friday with a whole school exercise class on the main playground with everyone invited to wear sports kit for the day. Please visit Parent Pay to make your voluntary contribution to the Sport Relief charity. As an additional challenge, all children will have the opportunity to run laps of the MUGA to see if jointly we can run a marathon - maybe even two!

Parent Survey

It is now much easier for us to send out our surveys via the website. Please visit the following link to send your views: <https://www.redoaks.org/parentSurvey/2020/OfstedParentSurvey/01.php> This survey will remain open until the end of term. Thank you in advance for your time.

Science Week

This week is also science week and children have enjoyed a visit from 'Professor Von Strudlehammer' of the UN who is about to give up on solutions for reversing the damage that humans are doing to our planet. The children have been carrying out a range of experiments, investigations and research and have been eagerly emailing the professor with their findings to prove that we can make a difference in saving the planet.

All this week we have been focusing on 'Our Diverse Planet'. Each afternoon the school have focused on one area of our beautiful planet, this might be Our Frozen World or Our Seas for example. The children have completed different practical challenges during this week to build upon their understanding of science all around us and to develop their scientific knowledge.



Parents are very welcome to come **tomorrow**, Thursday 12th March at 2.45pm and join your child's class to see what they have been doing.

Online Safety Parents Morning

There will be an Online Safety Parents morning on Tuesday 24th March. Please see the attached letter for more details.

Online Safety

Children are using smart devices from a much younger age than ever before. This week we have attached a guide for the types of devices that children use. The guide includes advice on safe searching, privacy settings and how to protect your device. As always if you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Mr Lee.



No Nuts

We politely request that no nuts are brought into school in lunch boxes as we do have children with severe allergies that can be life threatening. This includes **peanut butter and Nutella** spreads which we do not allow in sandwiches. Thank you for your help.



It is 'Sign Language Week' 16th-22nd March and the theme this year is 'Sign Language for All.' The main goal is to show that Sign Language is for everybody, and is shared and enjoyed by many children, adults and communities around the world.

In conjunction with this theme, we will be watching a YouTube clip of deaf people around the world signing 'I love you'. Here is the link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4UwLUnvcK8w>

We will also be exploring the wonderful use of 'visual vernacular' (VV) to tell a story. VV combines mime, cinematographic techniques, gestures, iconic signs, facial expressions etc.

For more information of this special signing week see this: <http://signlanguageweek.org.uk/>

Buckle up in March for Child Car Seat Safety Month

Along with Wiltshire Council and other partners, Traffic Management & Road Safety, SBC are running three **child car seat safety check events** in March to give advice and guidance on the safe fitting of child car seats, and remind people to always use the correct car seat.

The three **free** events, which run from 9am-4pm and will be attended by Wiltshire Council, Swindon Borough Council, Dorset and Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service and Wiltshire Police, will allow parents and carers to have a **free** fitting and safety check of their car seats.

The three car seat check events across the partnership area, which includes both Swindon and Wiltshire will be at:

- Devizes Fire Station, Monday 2 March
- Salisbury Fire station, Tuesday 3 March
- **The County Ground car park, Swindon, Wednesday 18 March**



Year 4 Multiplication Tables Online Test

All Year 4 children will do an online test in the week commencing 8th June 2020. There will be an opportunity well in advance for the children to have a trial run. Although the children regularly practise times tables at school, please make sure that your child is using the Times Table Rock Star resource as often as possible at home to reinforce their learning.

The Department for Education has published a parent guide that can be found at the following link.

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/multiplication-tables-check-information-for-parents?utm_source=a5628da6-db3d-48ac-80e8-a76b3645a345&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=immediate

Upcoming Dates 2020

- 13/3 **Sports Relief – wear your sports kit to school!**
20/3 Parent Book Look at 8.30am
26/3 Y3 Performance 2.00pm & 6.00pm
28/3 Family Learning event
- 1/4 Parents Evening
2/4 Parents Evening
3/4 School breaks up for Easter Hols at 1.30pm – No Acorns
20/4 School reopens at 8.30am
22/4 Class Photographs
27/4 PJ & Popcorn FORO



Don't forget to wear your sports kit on Friday!!



Geography Competition

A PRIZE for KS1 and for KS2

Two options:

1. Create a **factfile/poster** on one of the **Biomes** - (children have looked at these in science week) frozen world, forests, seas, grasslands, deserts, jungles. Where are they in the world? What continent can you find them?
2. **QUIZ**- Create your own Geographical quiz for the website. Can be on paper or on the computer- for example can use power point and have answer slides. See example on website.

Deadline: Wednesday 22nd April
to Mrs Tinson





Monday 9th March

Online Safety and Use of Technology Workshop

Dear Parents and Carers,

We would like to invite you to an Online Safety and Use of Technology Workshop on **Tuesday 24th March**. The workshop will start at 8:45am in the school hall.

The first part of the workshop will focus on Online Safety updates, how we can keep children safe online and an opportunity to sign up to our new National Online Safety scheme. We will then look at our new school Computing Package Purple Mash.

There will then be an opportunity to visit classes and see how we use technology all curriculum areas across the school.

Unfortunately on this occasion there will not be a crèche service available. We will not be able to accommodate younger siblings in classes as this can be a disruption to learning.

If you would like to attend please can you contact the school by Friday 13th March on admin@redoaks.org.uk.

We look forward to seeing you on the day.

Kind regards

Mr Lee



Executive Principal: Mrs R Surch
Deputy Head Teacher: Mr J Lee
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Children are using smart devices from a much younger age than ever before. It's why it's essential we talk to our children about how to use them safely. There are so many positive benefits to the new technology at our disposal these days - however there are plenty of downsides too. As a parent, it's important you understand these risks and how you can take steps to protect your family against them.

1 PUT YOURSELF IN CONTROL

Make use of the parental control settings available to you. With most devices, you're able to change the settings to control the content your child has access to. This isn't difficult to do, as you'll often find guidance in the instructions that come with the device. By setting a private pin code on certain devices, you can make sure your child can only access it when you allow it.



2



PROTECTING ANDROID DEVICES

You can set up restricted users on Android tablets through a Google account. Open the settings menu (look for a cog icon) and select the 'Users' option. Here you can add a new restricted user. After setting up a password and username, select which applications you want to restrict access to. On an Android smartphone it's similar, but first select 'Parental Controls' in the play store.

3 PROTECTING APPLE DEVICES

For Apple devices, you can simply visit the preferences/settings menu and within 'General' there is an option for 'Restrictions'. Here you can turn off any applications or features on your child's device that you do not want them to have access to.



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MAKE SEARCHING MUCH SAFER

Most search engines, such as Google, Bing or Yahoo, have a 'safe search' setting. You should activate this. Otherwise, it's extremely easy for a seemingly harmless search on the Internet to return unexpected and inappropriate results. Depending on the browser you're using, go to the settings and search for 'safe search'. Make sure you save the change so it defaults each time you open the browser. This will seriously reduce the chances of your child being exposed to something they shouldn't be.



4

THINK ABOUT ALL YOUR SMART DEVICES

As well as tablets and smartphones, you should think about any device in your home connected to the Internet: a games console, a media hub, or a personal computer. In each case you can usually find parental controls in the settings. Think carefully about how much access you want to allow your child, especially when it comes to accessing the Internet.



National Online Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday

9 Top Tips To Get Smart About children's devices

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REGULARLY CHECK SOCIAL MEDIA SETTINGS

Before you allow your child to use social media, you should discuss the dangers with them. You should also make sure you're able to access their profile and privacy settings and check them regularly. The companies behind social media platforms often make privacy changes without making it very obvious to the user, such as Facebook's introduction of facial recognition software.



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DON'T LET PEOPLE SEE WHERE YOU ARE

Location software sounds useful for seeing where your child is, but it also provides the opportunity for others to locate your child too. For safety, it's a good idea to disable location software on all devices or at least turn it off when it's not required. Also, be mindful of specific apps that record running routes or locations where your child might be playing a game. Talk to your child about why these can be dangerous and how to turn the setting on and off as required.

8 WATCH OUT FOR FAKE PROFILES

Sadly, social media presents an enormous opportunity for the likes of paedophiles to set up fake profiles and interact with children. Keep a track of the people your child interacts with on social media and if you do not recognise a user as a friend, consider blocking them.



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9 KEEP A CHECK ON SCREEN TIME

Managing how much time we spend on screens is a new challenge for us all. It's critically important when it comes to children, especially younger children who are still developing. It's not just a case of setting arbitrary time limits. Guidelines published by The Royal College of Pediatrics and Child Health suggests it's more important to consider the 'context and content' of what the screen is being used for. Still, it is helpful to put limits on devices using 'Guided Access' functions, which you can find in the settings of certain devices.



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Meet our expert

Emma Davis was a secondary school Computer Science teacher for more than decade. Since leaving education, she has been working in a cyber security firm delivering cyber awareness training to businesses and carrying out network testing. She is a mother of a five-year-old, she's had vast experience of controlling and managing how children access online services and use apps.

