

Visual Impairment Service Newsletter June 2020

Hello again!

We hope you have managed to get outside to enjoy the recent sunny weather. Although we can't visit schools and homes right now the VI team are still here to support you and your child. We know how difficult it is for pupils with visual impairment to access online learning so we are working with schools to help staff adapt their materials into accessible formats and providing additional activity ideas and resources. This term we are working to smooth transitions for children who are returning to school or joining new schools in September.

We have loved hearing about what your children have been doing at home and we hope you find the resources and links in our June newsletter useful. If you have any ideas to share with other parents and carers we would love to hear from you. If you would like to contact us please call 07714 843480

Or email viadmin@lambeth.gov.uk

Best wishes Rosalind, Tsai, Debbie, Sarah and Barbara.

Emergency food parcels

Lambeth are still delivering food parcels to families known to the SEN department during the Covid crisis. If you need one, please call **0207 926 2999** or complete the online form on the website lambeth.gov.uk/coronavirus

Hospital Helplines

Guy's and St Thomas' Eye Clinic **0207 188 4299**

Moorfields Eye Hospital Family Support Service **0207 566 2347**

Kings College Eye Clinic **0203 299 3878**

Accident and Emergency eye departments are open as usual.

Most optometrists have suspended routine eye examinations but are still offering urgent and essential eye care such as replacing broken or lost glasses. If you are worried about your child's vision, phone your optician for advice.

<https://lookafteryoureyes.org/eye-examinations/covid-19-frequently-asked-questions/>

DIARY DATES TO ENJOY IN JUNE



8th to 14th June is Puffin Books Festival

Famous authors such as Jacqueline Wilson, Jeremy Strong and Nick Sharratt will be reading their stories online.

www.penguin.co.uk/puffin/dream-big.html?medium=email&source=GovDelivery

CHICHESTER FESTIVAL THEATRE

Chichester Festival Theatre's musical version of Beauty and the Beast has an audio introduction for visually impaired. It is available to download free until 19th June.



<https://www.cft.org.uk/beauty-and-the-beast-broadcast>

WRITE FROM HOME

June 24th is National Writing Day. This year, the organisers are asking young people to share original pieces of writing, about their experiences of lockdown via [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) or [Facebook](#), using [#WriteFromHome](#).

Accessible libraries



From 1st to 14th June Lambeth Libraries are promoting reading materials for visually impaired. #HiVIS2020
<https://readingsight.org.uk/accessible-libraries/>

eBooks eAudiobooks magazines and comics are free to download at www.lambeth.gov.uk/LibraryServicesOnline.

You can read the Lambeth library newsletter here;

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/UKLAMBETH/bulletins/28ce356>

CALIBRE WWW.CALIBRE.ORG.UK

Calibre Audio Library provides a subscription-free service of unabridged audiobooks for adults and children who are unable to access standard print.

CLEARVISION WWW.CLEARVISIONPROJECT.ORG

ClearVision is a postal lending library of children's books designed to be shared by visually impaired and sighted children and adults.

info@clearvisionproject.org or call 020 8789 9575.

ROYAL NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF BLIND WWW.RNIBLIBRARY.COM

RNIB Library has a postal library of audiobooks, braille and giant print (24pt) and accessible music. RNIB Helpline 0303 123 9999.

RNIB Bookshare provides free online large print books for children and adults. It gives students access to GCSE and A level texts as well as books to read for pleasure. If you need help to access this resource please let us know.

<http://www.rnibbookshare.org>

Free audio books are available from

<https://stories.audible.com/start-listen>
www.calibreaudio.org.uk/

Free resources to support home learning



Oxford Owl has a free selection of ebooks to support reading at home for children aged 3-11

<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/reading-owl/library-page>



FREE eBook: Winnie and Wilbur Stay at Home

Join Winnie and Wilbur in a brand-new stay-at-home adventure! With Wilbur's fun ideas and a flick of Winnie's wand, staying at home can be lots of fun. [Read the eBook](#)



“Be quiet. Be still. Listen...”

Minute of listening is a collection of teaching resources to help young children learn at home. Content is free for parents during Covid-19

<https://www.minuteoflistening.org/post/collection-4-free-throughout-covid-19/>

Sensory resources to support home learning



Visual Impairment Service has extended Lambeth's Early Years Amazon vouchers to include older pupils who are unable to access online or large print resources at home.

Parents have purchased a range of sensory resources to help keep tactile learners entertained while special schools are closed.

This is Lillie opening her fizzing science kit.

Play Therapy Pods toy library



Newlife charity offers free loan of specialist toys to families who have disabled children. Toys are suitable from birth and can be borrowed for up to 12 weeks.

<https://newlifecharity.co.uk/docs/care-services/Play-Therapy-Pods.shtml>

TACPAC set

Tapac materials support communication through touch and music.

Parents can request a free set to use at home until 30th June

<https://tacapac.co.uk/product/set-5> at the checkout add the code 8Q7A3TXS



Access technology grants for home learning

Lambeth VI team have supported some parents with grant applications for assistive technology from Guide Dogs, RNIB and VICTA.

<https://www.rnib.org.uk/information-everyday-living-benefits-and-concessions-grants/grants-rnib>



Children and young people over the age of 11 who are registered sight impaired are eligible to apply for an Orbit Reader 20 or Apple iPad Air 2 grants@victa.org.uk



Victa also have a parent portal with links and ideas for home schooling

<https://www.victaparents.org.uk/covid-19-lockdown-resources/>

Guide Dogs Charity provides grants for assistive technology for visually impaired children up to age 18 to use at home. Parents contribute a minimum of 10% towards the cost.

<https://www.guidedogs.org.uk/services-we-provide/access-technology-and-grants>

[0800 781 1444](tel:08007811444) cypservices@guidedogs.org.uk

Guide Dogs also offer grants to purchase sensory toys such as bubble tubes for children with visual impairment.

<https://www.guidedogs.org.uk/services-we-provide/sensory-equipment-and-grants>





Dapple Apple Cake



<p>Mix</p>  <p>1 Tablespoon cooking oil</p> <p>with</p>  <p>1 Tablespoon egg</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>Add</p>  <p>1/4 teaspoon vanilla</p> <p>and</p>  <p>2 Tablespoons sugar</p>  <p>Mix well</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>Add</p> <p>1/4 cup flour</p>   <p>(don't mix yet!)</p>	<p>3</p>
<p>Add</p>  <p>1/4 teaspoon baking soda</p> <p>and</p>  <p>1/4 teaspoon cinnamon</p>  <p>Mix well (Batter will be thick)</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>Chop 1 apple slice into small piece</p>  <p>Add the apple pieces to cake batter.</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>Scoop the batter into a greased muffin tin.</p>  <p>Bake at 325° for 15-20 minutes</p>	<p>6</p>

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Easy to bake Brownies

Ingredients:

2 1/2 tablespoons Sugar
1 teaspoons Oil
1/8 teaspoons Vanilla extract
4 teaspoons Chocolate syrup
2 tablespoons Plus 1 teaspoons Flour

Directions:

Stir together sugar, oil, vanilla, chocolate and flour until the batter is smooth and chocolate coloured. Pour batter into greased and floured pan.

Bake 15 minutes. When cool, cut into wedges or little squares.
Makes 6 wedges or 1/2 inch squares.

Worried about returning to school?

Lambeth Educational Psychology Service has resources to support parents and children's well-being. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mKhSNNIcb_Z8

Parents can talk to an Educational Psychologist about their child's home learning and return to school. Call 020 7926 9658 to book an appointment.



Social stories help prepare children who may be worried about new situations

<https://www.twinkl.co.uk/resource/returning-to-school-social-situation-t-s-2548814>

Books about sight loss can help children to understand their visual impairment and how to explain it to others. Please ask us for further titles.

