



The Best That We Can Be
Devonshire Primary Academy

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Friday 1st May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Well, what a six weeks it has been! Never before has Devonshire been closed for so long, even during the War! Devonshire was then, as it is now, the centre of the community, ready to play its part.

Over the past weeks we have been open each day to look after the children of key workers and hand out food parcels. When they are not in school, our staff have also been working from home and adapting to a slightly different way of teaching.

Six weeks ago we had a matter of days to come up with a system to make sure that parents had some resources to educate their child at home and thank you for being amazing and rising to the challenge. Now that 'lockdown' looks to be continuing a little longer, we are getting our heads together and adapting how we will be continuing to support you at home. **So, from Monday 4th May things will be changing.**

Firstly, **we expect all children** to be accessing work provided either online or in the form of home learning packs. If you are unable to access online resources, please let us know when a member of staff phones you over the next few weeks to have a catch-up chat.

Every Monday morning, staff will be posting a weekly timetable for your child on their Class Dojo page, which will be separated into the following sections:

<u>Must</u>	An English and a Maths activity each day, which your child must complete. This may be an LBQ code, Showbie code, a video, PowerPoint or a link to other online resources with clear instruction as to where you can find the work you need.
<u>Should</u>	This will be a topic related activity for each day, and although this is not compulsory, we would ask that children do complete this in order to keep up with the curriculum and not fall behind.
<u>Could</u>	This will be a more creative activity that you might want to do to maintain your sanity and have a bit of fun!

I appreciate this new approach to learning may take some getting used to, but these plans are much more detailed than you have had previously and will ensure your child's education is maintained. Staff will be available via Class Dojo Message should you need any support. I would politely ask you don't

phone the school office as they will be unable to help you with learning-related questions and will ask you to message your child's class teacher on Class Dojo. Staff are continuing to work in school on a rota, so if they do not reply to your message straight away, it may be because they are in class. Please be assured that they will reply as soon as they can. If you do not have access to Class Dojo, please contact the school office immediately and ensure they have your email address so you can be added to the system.

Finally, thank you once again for all your patience and hard work during this unique time. Nobody wants to be in this position, but we do have to make the most of what we have and ensure that 'our children' get the best education they can get at all times!

Remember, you are not on your own. Staff are here to help and when this is over, we will be able to look back and say, "I'm proud of myself!"

Many thanks for your continued support.

Take care and stay safe #TeamDevonshire

D.P. Simm

Mr D.P. Simm
Headteacher