



Derby City Council

Team	VI - STePS
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## **Links to useful websites and resources online specifically for children with Vision Impairment during Covid-19 and key contacts**

### **STePS Vision Team**

See parents' letter for individual contact details for VI teachers or call 01332641400 for STePS admin

### **Eye clinic, Derbyshire Children's Hospital**

Call 01332 785659

### **Derby City Local Offer**

<https://www.derby.gov.uk/education-and-learning/special-education-needs-disabilities/>

### **General information and online support**

RNIB or Guide Dogs are both national charities supporting people with VI in a number of ways. *Not all services are available during the lockdown.*

<https://www.guidedogs.org.uk>

<https://www.rnib.org>

### **RNIB Bookshare** - large print books and materials to support learning

<https://www.rnibbookshare.org>

If the school has an account, they can set up a member account for an individual child to enable them to access resources. Schools can set up an account even if they aren't physically open. Parents can contact school for login details to access their child's account from home.

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**Specialist Teaching and Psychology Service / People's Department**  
derby.gov.uk

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Any questions contact

[bookshare@rnib.org.uk](mailto:bookshare@rnib.org.uk) or 0300 303 8313

### **Assistive technology**

If a child or young person uses assistive technology, such as a laptop with Zoomtext, at school, they may be eligible for a grant to help with the cost of equipment for home use.

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

**Audio books** - available free during lockdown

<https://stories.audible.com/discovery>

**Daily listening from Living Paintings** – stories, chat and gentle music

[Daily Sound Lounge](#)

**Sight advice for parents / carers**

<https://www.sightadvicefaq.org.uk/independent-living/Covid-19-CYPF-SAFAQ?dtindex=3071813008:3071813009>

**Ideas for Early Years** – play ideas and information for parents of pre-school children with VI

<http://www.ssc.education.ed.ac.uk/earlyyears/>

**Accessible apps** – a range of accessible apps and games for home learning designed for students with vision impairment being offered free during the lockdown. *We haven't tried out the apps so can't say how good (or not!) they are and they are American so may not fit with our curriculum BUT a colleague in another local Authority has recommended them.*

<https://www.accessibyte.com/stay-safe>

**Online support groups and forums** - for parents and children / young people with vision impairment. At any time, but especially while children are not in school, it can be helpful to connect with others who understand and share your needs and concerns.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/look-uk-19430100245>