



23rd July 2021

Dear Parents/carers,

It is hard to believe that we have reached the end of our 2020/21 academic year, another school year that has been disrupted and challenged by the pandemic. Much as we are hopeful that school can function more freely from September we are still mindful that the virus has not gone and that we have a duty to follow guidelines.

We must comply with health and safety law and put in place proportionate control measures regarding the following:

1. **Ensure good hygiene for everyone.**
2. **Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes.**
3. **Keep occupied spaces well ventilated.**
4. **Follow public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19.**

Please note: ** Pupils, staff and other adults should follow public health advice on when to self-isolate and what to do. They should not come into school if they have symptoms, have had a positive test result or other reasons requiring them to stay at home due to the risk of them passing on COVID-19 (for example, they are required to quarantine).*

If anyone in your school develops COVID-19 symptoms, however mild, you should send them home and they should follow public health advice.

As always we are working with the Local Authority to ensure that suitable risk assessments are in place. The focus for next term will be a **'breakout management plan'** The local authority will not have this ready until August so I am unable to share the plans with you before September. Please see additional information [about step 4 track and trace](#).

We have discussed a way forward and taken on board some ideas that you have shared through the parent forum survey. I will be discussing more with the parent forum next term how we can best implement the activities that you have been missing.

The top answers from 40 replies were:

- Being able to visit classrooms and talk to teachers face to face

(don't forget you can currently meet with teachers if you make an appointment or they can call you if you need to speak with them, meet and greet meetings are planned for the first half term but please be mindful that entering classrooms can still compromise safety)

- Being able to attend school events like plays, harvest, Christingle

(we very much hope to be able to plan these for October onwards but will remain mindful of safety)

- Resuming our selection of trips and visits for the children

(we have also missed these and will plan whatever we can reasonably do, bearing in mind that for some of our families income has been impacted due to the pandemic)

- Resuming extra curricular clubs

(these will resume in the autumn term, we rely upon staffing capacity so there may be limited choice to begin with)

Other ideas that you have shared relate to activities within school that we hope to be able to resume such as assemblies and family groups. The quality of teaching and learning remains high and has been a priority throughout this time.

I hope that you have appreciated that we have put the wellbeing and safety of the children, the staff and their wider families first, we realise this has meant that involvement with yourselves has been limited but we pride ourselves on the level of communication and support that we have provided for our most vulnerable families and the level of strategic planning followed by clear information that we have posted both via email and on the website.

Systems from September 2021:

All children and adults entering the school site must use hand sanitiser and/or wash hands on entering

The start of the school day

Drop off: Gates open at 8.30am Registration is from 8.35am until 8.45 am Lessons start at 8.45am

***Each Key Stage group will continue to use a separate entrance and exit, the one way system remains as this has helped a smooth start to the day and has allowed learning to begin promptly: Please make sure your child is on time.**

- 1: Codden and Taw (pre-school) – Front side gate-greeted by staff- use EY garden
- 2: Tarka and Barum – Front main gate - greeted by staff – **no** parents on site
- 3: Saunton, Exmoor, Lundy – Back gate- greeted by staff **no** parents on site (KS2 with siblings may use bottom gate)

The end of the school day

Pick Up: Gates open at 3.10pm lessons finish at 3.15pm

- 1: Codden and Taw (pre-school) – meet parents in EY garden
- 2: Tarka and Barum – Front playground, staff let out when parent is seen
- 3: Saunton, Exmoor, Lundy – Back gate- Children leave class and walk to gate or meet parent in top playground

***Classes use the same exit but [parents may choose to enter the respective playgrounds, please do not enter the wider school or buildings unless by prior arrangement.](#) (KS2 children may join siblings on bottom playground if required)**

School Uniform: please adhere to our [uniform code](#) – thrift shop **PE kits:** these should be worn to school on the day, however, PE kit must be school uniform and not 'sports gear' If your child does not have a grey school hoody they should wear their school jumper, plain black shorts/leggings and grey logo or plain white T shirt – thrift shop

Book bags: Books will be sent home, your child will need a book bag but no back packs are allowed. If the guided reading text is not returned your child will not be able to take the next one home until it is.

Newsletters: Teachers will update you each week with the key learning and home-learning activities; sometimes they will add information to the class blog on the [website](#).

Whole school updates will be emailed and added to the website along with whole school newsletters as necessary

Extra Curricular Clubs: These will resume in the second week – collection system to be confirmed

Cabin Club/school meals: Please book using [eduspot](#) – collect child using back gate and top playground

Parent meet and greet meetings in the hall: **8th September:** 2.45pm Codden Class, 3.20pm Barum Class. **9th September:** 2.45pm Tarka Class, 3.20pm Saunton Class, **13th September:** 3.20pm Exmoor Class. **15th September** 2.45pm Taw (pre-school) 3.20pm Lundy Class

I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to yourselves for your patience and understanding and for supporting us in keeping your children safe, learning and happy! The whole staff have worked incredibly hard and dedicated themselves to this purpose throughout what has been the most challenging period in our careers. Without the strong team work and dedication our school could not be the special place that it is. I am proud and grateful for this. Thank you also to our governors for their unwavering support and trust in what we do.

I wish you a happy and restful summer break and look forward to seeing you in September.

Very best wishes

Melanie Smallwood