



Porthleven School.

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Porthleven

Helston

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Dear parents and carers

Friday 3rd July 2020

I write to inform you of the protective measures that will be in place in September, for the new academic year, following the government's directive that all children should return to school full-time. The measures that we will put in place aim to strike a balance between minimising any risks from coronavirus - whilst it is still in the community - and providing a full and quality educational experience for the children of our school.

As outlined by the government, the prevention measures the school will take are:

1. Minimise contact with individuals who are unwell by ensuring that those who have coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms, or who have someone in their household who does, do not attend school

If a child in school becomes unwell with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature, or has a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia), they will be isolated from the rest of their class and closely monitored by a member of staff. Parents of a child showing symptoms will be called immediately to collect the child and advised to follow '[stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#)', which sets out that the child must be kept at home for at least 7 days and parents should [arrange to have a test](#) to see if they have coronavirus (COVID-19). Other members of their household (including any siblings) should self-isolate for 14 days from when the symptomatic person first had symptoms.

If a test comes back as positive, the parents of children in that bubble will be informed and the bubble will close. This could happen at any point during the day. Siblings will also be sent home. Learning for children self-isolating at home will then switch to Google Classroom.

2. Clean hands thoroughly more often than usual

Classrooms will continue to have sanitiser 'stations' that staff will monitor. Pupils will be asked to wash / sanitise hands on entry to the room and at intervals throughout the day. Classes that have access to sinks will alternate between using soap and sanitiser to speed up the process.

Younger children will be taught to wash their hands frequently and, especially, after using any equipment, playing with movable toys, being outside, and before eating. As mentioned previously, children will be encouraged, where possible, not to touch their faces or to put objects in their mouths. We will teach these routines and expectations through stories and games where appropriate. It will help enormously if you discuss this with your child to help them to socialise and resettle into familiar everyday classroom routines.

3. Ensure good respiratory hygiene by promoting the ‘catch it, bin it, kill it’ approach

Please help us by supplying your child with a packet of tissues should they have a cold and remind them to cough into their elbows, rather than their hands. We will teach good oral hygiene when the children return.

4. Introduce enhanced cleaning, including cleaning frequently touched surfaces often, using standard products such as detergents and bleach

The school will continue to employ a cleaner between 11.00 – 2.00pm to clean pupil toilets, door handles and surfaces in communal areas. This is in addition to the cleaners already cleaning at the end of the school day. The staff will continue to wipe down desks with disinfectant at intervals during the day. Desks and chairs on intervention spaces will be cleaned down after use.

5. Minimise contact between individuals and maintain social distancing wherever possible

The school will still operate on the principle of keeping classes in separate bubbles and avoid children from mixing with children from other bubbles unless it is at a distance of 2m and is monitored. We will continue to stagger drop-off and collection times; however, we have created a time slot for families with multiple children to make the process simpler.

Class name	Year Group	Teachers	Drop off / collection location & Procedures	Drop- off time	Collection time
Families with multiple children in school			Front of main gate / Carpark / Side gate depending on which classes children attend. EYFS & KS1 Teachers / TAs will be present to receive children. KS2 children can enter their classroom through the external doors.	8.30	2.45
Angelfish	Nursery / Reception	Mrs Trounson	One way system from children centre entrance, through staff carpark and out through main gate.	9.00	3.15
Rainbowfish	Reception	Mrs Wood		8.45	3.00
Seahorses	Year 1	Mrs Penrose & Ms Warwick	Front of school main gate, new one way system	9.00	3.15
Turtles	Year 2	Mrs Power		8.45	3.00
Narwhals	Year 3 / 4	Mrs Figgins	In front of school. Children to use pedestrian path to classroom.	8.45	3.00
Swordfish	Year 3 / 4	Mr Williams	Side pedestrian gate to KS2 playground	8.45	3.00
Pelicans	Year 5 / 6	Mrs Bidgood & Mrs Blandford	Side vehicle gate to KS2 playground	8.30	2.45
Hérons	Year 5 / 6	Mrs Hulme		8.45	3.00
Cormorants	Year 5 / 6	Mrs Isherwood & Mrs Dean		9.00	3.15

For children in Year 1, EYFS and nursery, as with current practice, the resources available for child-initiated learning will be carefully considered. For example, malleable resources, such as play dough, will not be shared and plans have been made for the safe use of resources. Additional cleaning has also enabled teachers to use many of the other resources.

Classrooms for the older children have been set-up in rows, following government guidance that all children should be forward facing. Children will have their own set of resources and a tray to store their books. Where resources need to be shared, such as maths apparatus or PE/ science equipment, the resources will be cleaned regularly.

Break and Lunchtimes will also be staggered and classes will have designated spaces on the playground and field if the weather is dry.

Children will have packed lunches in the classroom and school dinners will be delivered in biodegradable catering boxes. There will be a hot dinner choice on the menu.

6. Where necessary, wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE).

Government advice states that children should not wear face coverings, unless they are using school transport. PPE will be worn by staff if they are involved in intimate care, administering first aid or providing care and support for a poorly child within 1m.

Curriculum

When children first arrive in September there will be a whole school focus on wellbeing and develop children's understanding of the new procedures that have to take place and reasons for them. Teachers will take the time to establish class rules and routines. The emphasis will be developing relationships and how to show friendship following the current restrictions.

There will be greater focus on the core subjects: phonics will be covered twice daily, once in ability groupings mentioned above and once with a class teacher input after lunch. We will continue to follow a linear approach in maths. When children return in September we will assess against the 'Ready-to-Progress' criteria with low stakes quizzing starting with number and place value. This will help us determine any gaps that will be addressed in lessons. Through the use of these low stakes quizzing we will also be able to prepare children for the next unit of learning by adding a morning pre-teach session. In addition to our daily maths lessons teachers will create opportunities to teach math skills in other subjects such as science and geography.

Physical education will continue to be taught in a weekly lesson. Children will be encouraged to wear their kits to school to avoid getting changed in school.

At the core of our literacy teaching, whether through guided reading or creative writing, will continue to be a great book or text. This has been our intent in developing a love of reading and writing and we

foresee no change in this approach as a result of missed learning. That said we will look for more reading and writing opportunities in other areas of the curriculum.

Remote learning will be integrated into the school curriculum as a means to provide more detailed feedback to learning happening in the classroom and for homework. The aim will be to use it as a collaborative learning tool that enables pupils to work on shared projects within and outside the classroom.

School Uniform

We encourage children to wear school uniform starting from September as it plays a valuable role in contributing to the ethos of the school and will help set an appropriate tone. However, to assist parents financially and to possibly help with the transition of some pupils the uniform policy on clothing won't be enforced until the October half-term.

We understand that some children may find the transition difficult and we will be contacting some parents of children who have yet to return to school to provide sessions on the 3rd and 4th of September to view the school and their teachers before the full return on the 7th September. If you have any concerns or you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

We will be holding parent meetings in the first couple of weeks of the new school year to discuss your child's progress and to how we can assist further with home learning should the situation arise again through bubble or local lockdowns.

Should there be any further government guidelines between now and our return to school I will inform you further by email and update the school website. Thank you for your patience and understanding again in these ever changing times.

Yours sincerely
Mr D Clayden
Head of School

