



Monday 22nd June 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Note: the information in this letter is subject to change following the latest Government advice and changing guidance from the Truro and Penwith Academy Trust.

Further to my previous communication, I am sharing our plans for re-opening the school to further year groups from 29th June. Whilst we can put into place specific control measures and follow the latest government advice, I cannot guarantee anyone's safety from coming into contact with COVID-19 whilst attending school. I suggest families continue to monitor the situation so you feel informed enough to make a decision on whether returning to school is right for your child and family's individual circumstances.

We have taken the decision to open further after consulting with parents; after seeing the positive impact for the children who have already returned to school; after taking advice from senior staff within the academy trust; and considering the limited local impact of Covid 19 to date.

Attendance

Families will have my full support on any decision you make regarding a return to school. There is no expectation from the school that your child should return. However, we would ask that you continue to communicate clearly and quickly about any decisions you do make. Factors you must consider include: underlying health issues of your child or family living in your household; will the structure of the school day meet your aims and expectations for what is beneficial to your child; your own interpretation of the current risk of your child/family being in contact with COVID-19 whilst attending school.

Keeping Children and Staff Safe

We are following the Government advice by implementing measures, applicable to our school's context, to reduce the risk to children and staff to the best of our ability. Some of the measures include:

- Children will be split into groups of 15 or less.
- Individual groups will work, play and eat in their groups throughout the day.
- Each group will be assigned a small team of staff working in different shifts through the week. This will mostly be the usual staff team for that class. The same staff will supervise the children during all breaks and over lunch.
- Classrooms will be set up so that we can support social distances as much as is reasonable. Please note that this is more difficult in the younger groups due to the age of the children.
- Movement around the school will be limited to specific locations and we will utilize the outside spaces as much as possible throughout the day.
- Entry and Exit to the school will be staggered and groups arriving and leaving at the same time will use different entrances.
- Only one adult must drop off and pick up. Parents must adhere to social distances at all times when on the school site.
- Adults will be asked not to enter the school buildings. To speak to the office please use the phone number below.
- Washing of hands on entry to and exit from school, regular, supervised hand washing throughout the day and hand sanitiser available for every group.
- Children will not share materials/equipment such as pencils, pens. ICT and equipment will be cleaned after each session.
- Cleaning will be increased daily, with regular deep cleans weekly.
- Staff will encourage social distancing as far as is reasonable and kind (see below).



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A note on social distancing – Social distancing will be encouraged and supported by staff in all groups. Please note for the younger children this is challenging. I cannot guarantee that social distancing will take place between children, but that we will do our best to practice as much distancing as is reasonable.

In the event of a child/adult showing symptoms of Covid-19:

Latest Government advice to schools states:

- *When a child, young person or staff member develops symptoms compatible with coronavirus, they should be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 7 days. Their fellow household members should self-isolate for 14 days. All staff and students who are attending an education or childcare setting will have access to a test if they display symptoms of coronavirus, and are encouraged to get tested.*
- *Where the child, young person or staff member tests negative, they can return to their setting and the fellow household members can end their self-isolation.*
- *Where the child, young person or staff member tests positive, the rest of their class or group within their childcare or education setting should be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 14 days. The other household members of that wider class or group do not need to self-isolate unless the child, young person or staff member they live with in that group subsequently develops symptoms.*

If a child/member of staff is suspected of having COVID-19, ALL families will be informed that day (without disclosing their identity) so families can decide if they wish to take precautionary measures themselves. If a child/adult tests positive for COVID-19, the school will close for a deep clean and all members of staff/children who were in attendance at school will be encouraged to self-isolate as per the government advice above. The school will only re-open when it is clear that staff have tested ‘negative’ and there is enough staff to safely reopen again. In this event, Key Worker/Vulnerable families may have to seek provision elsewhere through Cornwall Council.

To help us monitor any potential outbreak, children will have their temperature checked on arrival at school and we ask that parents do not leave until their child has had their temperature checked in the event that they need to return home with you.

The school will be closed every Wednesday to all but a small group who have places agreed by the headteacher. This is to ensure staff have appropriate planning time and to allow the school to ensure a regular deep clean is carried out and any necessary equipment changes can take place.

The School Day

Staggered entry, drop off and pick up allow us to identify and rectify any potential issues that may arise and helps us to promote social distancing. Please see times below.

We have staggered the drop off and collection time to minimise contact between each group. Families need to stick to this time to minimise risk and comply with our risk assessments. Only one adult please. The adult dropping off is not permitted to enter the school building. Adults must adhere to social distancing at all times on the school site.

| Class | Entrance/Exit | Timings |
|----------------|-------------------------|--|
| Mousehole Mice | Pre-school entrance | Drop off: 09:30 – 9:40 Pick up: 2:00 – 2:20 |
| Dinghy Class | Dinghy | Drop off: 09:10 – 9:30 Pick up: 2:20 – 2:40 |
| Skiff Class | Main Entrance | Drop off: 09:10 – 9:30 Pick up: 2:20 – 2:40 |
| Lugger Class | Main Entrance | Drop off: 08:50 – 09:10 Pick up: 2:40 – 3:00 |
| Schooner Class | Main corridor fire exit | Drop off: 08:50 – 09:10 Pick up: 2:40 – 3:00 |



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Food and Lunchbreak

Children will eat their lunch in their groups with their assigned adults. We will not be providing a morning tuck shop. The school kitchen will be providing a reduced menu of cooked food. Chartwells have compliant procedures in place to limit risk of transmission.

Please ensure your child brings a named water bottle to school with them.

Uniform

Until now, children have not been wearing school uniform. Now that the majority of children are in school during the week, we would like them to be wearing school uniform. We do appreciate that school uniform and shoes may no longer fit, and we don't expect anyone to buy new uniform or shoes for six days of school this term. So please do not worry if your child has to wear different shoes or sweaters. It is good practice to wear a different change of clothing each day to minimise risk of spreading infection and for children to change their clothes as soon as they arrive home from school.

Equipment

Each child will be provided with a small pencil case of essential items. These will only be used by your child. The children should not bring stationary or equipment from home because of limited space and increased cleaning requirements. Computing equipment will have limited use and they will be cleaned between groups on Wednesday.

Curriculum

When the children first return to school, our priority will be to make the children feel safe and comfortable about being back at school. We will teach the children new routines in line with the changes outlined in this letter. Unfortunately, there will be challenges in offering a well-rounded curriculum and some of our Seesaw learning offer will not be as extensive as it has been whilst staff focus on the pupils in school.

Additional Information

We will do the very best we can to support you and your child. Please be mindful that as hard as we try, we cannot guarantee to be able to cover all health guidelines and can only take reasonable measures.

If your child needs first aid, we will administer it as safely and caringly as we can.

In the meantime, I welcome contact from families who have any questions. I am happy to answer any questions you have the best that I can.

Please ensure that all contact and emergency information that the school office holds is up to date.

This is sent with my best wishes at this difficult time and my gratitude for your continued support and the many kind, positive messages we have received over recent weeks.

Yours sincerely,



Chris Roynon



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