



St Erme with Trispen Community Primary School

School Lane, Trispen, Truro, Cornwall. TR4 9BJ

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5th March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope this letter finds you and your families safe and well. We are so looking forward to being able to welcome everyone back to school on the 8th March, but we are also aware that some pupils and parents may be feeling anxious. Please read the information below carefully reminding you of the systems we have in place to keep everyone as safe as possible. I hope it answers all possible question but please get in touch if there is anything you are not sure of.

Monday 8th March 2021

ALL PUPILS BACK INTO SCHOOL (timings below) Please ensure that nothing is brought from home apart from coats, bag, book and water bottles (and lunches if you are having a packed lunch)

Bubbles

We will continue to stay within our 3 key stage bubbles – EYFS/KS1, Y3/4, Y5/6. This means that there will be no mixing of these groups and they will continue to play in separate areas.

Start and end of day procedures and times

In order to reduce congestion on site, we will continue with the staggered start and pick up from school (see table below).

		Drop off	Pick up
Bubble 1	Truthan and Trevella (Y5 & Y6)	8.45	3.15
Bubble 2	Allen and Pengelly (Y3 & Y4)	8.55	3.05
Bubble 3	Trehane, Frogmore and Boswiddle (YN, YR, Y1/2)	9.00	2.55

We will continue with our one-way system with parents and pupils entering the school via the wooden gate at the main entrance. We ask that where possible, children are dropped off at the gate, reducing the number of adults entering the premises and would advise that all Key Stage 2 pupils enter by themselves.

- There will be a member of staff on duty to oversee arrival and collection each morning
- All pupils will be greeted warmly and supported by a familiar member of staff at the classroom door so that your children feel safe and secure.
- Parents and pupils are asked to respect social distancing and adults are not permitted in the school building or able to gather/linger on site. Please keep to a distance of 2 metres when waiting.
- Masks should be worn by adults when dropping children off and picking them up and only one adult should drop off/pick up.
- We ask that pupils are punctual and everyone strictly adheres to the drop off and pick up timings by dropping off and picking up children as quickly as possible.
- If you have more than one child, please drop off /collect all of your children at the same time, at the time of your eldest child.

If you haven't previously given permission for your child to walk home or walk out to the school car park, please email Mrs Jones secretary@st-erme.cornwall.sch.uk to confirm this. This will also help us to reduce human traffic and speed up the process at the end of the day.

The government now recommends that staff and visitors in primary schools wear face coverings when in situations where social distancing is not possible. Here we ask that face coverings are worn when moving around in corridors and in communal areas. Please tell your child that they will see staff in school wearing face coverings when not in their classroom bubble areas. And please reassure them that staff are doing this to help keep everyone safe and we know it will quickly feel part of the normal daily routine in school.

Hygiene

We continue our already-established hand washing routines with children and staff washing their hands / using hand sanitiser on entry to school as well as on exit in addition to regular intervals during the day.

- Resources that are shared within the bubble will be sanitised at the end of each day.
- PPE will be worn by staff only for providing intimate care and to support children who are ill.
- Following the DfE's guidance, we aim to maintain distance wherever possible and ask children not to touch staff and peers. The guidance acknowledges that this may not be possible for the youngest children and some children with complex needs. However doing this where you can, even some of the time will help.
- We will continue to encourage social distancing where possible, especially in KS2. All pupils will be required to follow the respiratory hygiene routines of 'catch it', 'bin it', 'kill it' and there are bins to place tissues in.
- Equipment will be cleaned more frequently and toys will be cleaned overnight.
- Surfaces and sinks and toilets will be cleaned regularly throughout the day.
- Hand sanitizer is available in all rooms.
- Doors will be hooked back so they are not touched, and windows and doors will be open to ventilate.

Testing

Staff working in school continue to follow the guidance and test themselves twice weekly using lateral flow kits. These tests are designed to capture asymptomatic cases.

There are currently no plans to carry out regular asymptomatic testing for primary school pupils, but tests will be available for parents of primary age children. All households with primary and secondary school and college age children, and childcare and support bubbles, are encouraged to start twice-weekly testing from March 8th.

Tests are available for adults in these households to collect from sites across Cornwall. As with student testing, this is encouraged but not mandatory. Households of school-age children are asked simply to visit their nearest testing centre to pick up kits for themselves. There's no booking required. People can find their nearest centre here -

<https://find-covid-19-rapid-test-sites.maps.test-and-trace.nhs.uk/>

The link for booking a drive-through test if you're an essential worker who can't work from home is

<https://getatest.vdt.app/cc>

Lunches

Lunches will continue to be eaten in the bubble classroom or outside (weather dependent). EYFS/KS1 bubble will eat in the hall. Meals can be purchased in the usual way via Parentpay.

Activities and Events

There will be no whole school assemblies as 'bubbles' cannot be together and we need to minimise large gatherings. There will be no after school clubs. This will be reviewed after Easter.

Wrap-Around-Care (Breakfast and after school club)

We will resume wrap-around-care and the DfE have acknowledged that it may be logistically impossible to keep the groups of 'bubbles' separate. In order to make wrap-around-care safer and to reduce the risk of Covid transmission across bubbles, pupils will be in the school hall, sat at an individual table (much like key workers have been throughout lockdown). This is to reduce the risk of spreading the virus across bubbles.

Attendance

It is the government's expectation that all children attend school daily unless they have received a shielding letter. If a child is unable to attend school, because they are complying to clinical or public health advice, including a local lockdown, they must fully engage in the remote learning, which will be provided via Seesaw. In this circumstance, their absence will not be penalised but we will need evidence of this request. Going forward, our usual attendance protocols will resume once more. The government states:

- It is a parents' duty to ensure that their child attends school regularly, where the child is a registered pupil at school and they are of compulsory school age.
- The schools' responsibility to record attendance and follow up absence
- The availability to issue sanctions, including fixed penalty notices in line with local authorities' codes of conduct.

Uniform

All children to come to school in FULL UNIFORM unless your child has PE. We also appreciate that children will have grown in the past two months and it might be difficult to obtain key items in this current lockdown period! On the days that your children have PE, we ask that they come into school in their PE Kit please.

PE Days

Frogmore and Trehane	Wednesday and Thursday
Boswiddle	Wednesday and Thursday
Allen	Monday and Tuesday
Pengelly	Tuesday and Wednesday
Truthan	Monday and Friday
Trevella	Monday and Friday

Please remember that PE Kit consists of:

White T Shirt or School PE Shirt, Black or dark coloured shorts (with the option of leggings or jogging bottoms, Trainers or Plimsolls Either a school jumper or a DARK coloured PLAIN sweatshirt.

Children need to have a coat in school and wellies as we will aim to utilise the outdoor areas as much as possible due to Covid-19. Children can also bring in some joggers and an extra fleece as we are required to keep windows open as much as possible to ventilate classrooms and reduce the risk of Covid-19 infection.

Reading books

Reading books can be changed but require quarantine for 72 hours on return.

Communication

At St Erme, we pride ourselves on our family ethos and it is important to us that we retain our sense of community and maintain strong lines of communication so that you are partners in your child's/children's education. However, as we are not permitted to allow parents in the school building, we ask that, if you need to pass on a message to your child's class teacher, in the first instance, you speak to the member of staff on duty or contact Mrs Jones in the office secretary@st-erme.cornwall.sch.uk who can arrange an online Teams meeting or phone call at a time convenient for both parties.

Behaviour

An addendum to our behaviour policy was formulated in June 2020 when the first groups of children returned to school and this can be found on our school website. In the addendum, we have had to change some of our expectations around pupils' behaviour and make these clear to all. In these times of heightened risk to our health, it is important that children and staff are aware that behaviour which jeopardises the health of others, is taken seriously. Our school values and ethos remain unchanged, and children are expected to uphold these. In addition to our RRS behaviour rules (ready for learning, respectful and safe) children must be aware of the new safety requirements and that they must:

- Stay at least 1+ metres apart from each other wherever possible (with a common sense approach taken to EYFS and younger pupils).
- Use their own specific equipment (including resources) and not share any of these.
- Not share any food, drinks, cups or water bottles.
- Work, eat and play in their designated group and minimise contact with children from other groups (including in the playground, anywhere on the school site and on their way to and from school). Move around school as instructed by their teacher/adult and avoid other people.
- Never cough, sneeze or spit towards another person; instead, catch all coughs and sneezes in a tissue and throw it away (catch it, bin it, kill it), then wash their hands.
- Wash hands frequently (including whenever we are asked to), with soap and water for 20 seconds (e.g. by singing Happy Birthday twice) or with hand sanitiser if soap and water are not available.
- It is essential that the children listen to and follow instructions at all times and adhere to the guidelines set by the government and the school. This is required inside school and during breaks and lunches. Any child who is unable to do this is risking the safety of themselves, other children and staff.

Feeling Unwell

If you or a member of your family, a pupil or member of staff shows symptoms of Covid-19 they must not come to school and must arrange for a test immediately. Please follow the self-isolation guidance (see the link below) and report this to the school. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are a recent onset of any of the following: a new continuous cough a high temperature a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia) A test should be carried out (see link below) <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/>

If anyone in the 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 must be sent home and advised to follow 'stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection', which sets out that they must self-isolate for 10 days and 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 10 days from when the symptomatic person first had symptoms.

If someone gets ill

- If someone is sent home with COVID-19 symptoms we will inform the parents of children in the bubble that someone is being tested
- If the test is positive, all members of the bubble will need to self-isolate for 10 days.
- If an adult within your child's bubble is unable to work due to e.g. sickness other than Covid-19, it is possible that this bubble would have to close until the staff member returns.

As always thank you for your continued support. I make no apologies for the length of this letter as it is important that everyone is clear on the systems in place to keep everyone safe in these current circumstances. We will regularly review in line with advice from the Government and Public Health England.

We completely understand that some pupils and parents may be apprehensive in coming back. Please be reassured that the school remains a (very) clean and safe place and that we are ALL looking forward to seeing you and welcoming your child back to school

If you have any further questions at all, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Take care, stay safe and look after each other

Warmest wishes



Mrs T Preston
Headteacher