

Monday 26th May 2020



Dear Parents/Carers,

School Re-opening – Years R, 1 and 6

Note: the information in this letter is subject to change following the latest Government advice and changing guidance.

Further to my previous communication, I am sharing our plans for re-opening so that you can make an informed decision about whether your child attends school in 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 daily reports and government briefings so you feel informed enough to make a decision on whether returning to school is right for your child and family's individual circumstances.

Attendance

Families will have my full support on any decision you make regarding a return to school. **The Government has made it clear that there will be no implications or fines for families who choose not to send their child to school.** Factors you must consider include: underlying health issues of your child or family members in the 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 whole day.
- Each group will be assigned a small team of staff working in different shifts through the week (see the timetable below). My aim is for these staff members to be constant and remain with a group of children; however, staffing issues may impact on this moving forward.
- Classrooms will be set up so that we can support to 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. If you are collecting from several year groups, please pick up at the time of the earliest pupil.
- 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 sanitizer available for every group.
- Children will not share materials/equipment such as pencils, pens. ICT equipment will be cleaned after every 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).

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.



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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.

Mousehole School is re-opening in a considered and measured way, gradually phasing in the Year groups to ensure safety of the children and staff. I will keep parents informed weekly of any changes for the following week. I realise you have work and child care to consider, however, I have a duty of care to the children and staff to ensure re-opening is managed safely and effectively.

THE SCHOOL IS CLOSED ON MONDAY 1st, TUESDAY 2nd AND WEDNESDAY 3rd (EXCEPT TO KEY WORKERS WHO HAVE NO OTHER PROVISION - PLEASE CONTACT US IF YOU NEED SUPPORT ON THESE DAYS) Thursday 4th June: open to Key Worker families and years R, 1 and 6

School will be closed to Year R, 1 and 6 children every Wednesday. This is to ensure staff have appropriate planning time, including coordinating home and school-based learning tasks for the week ahead. It also allows the school to ensure a regular deep clean is carried out and any necessary equipment changes can take place. The school will be continuing to offer provision to Key Workers on Wednesdays. Please be aware that demand for key worker support may mean key worker children being in a group with older and younger children on Wednesdays.

PROVISION WILL BE REVIEWED FOR THE REMAINDER OF JUNE. This will include the possible opening of Mousehole Mice Pre-school.

The School Day

This staggered entry, drop off and pick up allow us to identify and rectify any potential issues that may arise and helps us to practice social distancing. Educare includes children of key workers and those identified as vulnerable.

Year Group	Staff	Room	Timings
Reception and year 1 and younger educare children	Mrs Williams and Mrs Perry (Mon/Tues)	Dinghy	Drop off: 09:10 – 9:30 Pick up: 2:20 – 2:40
	Miss Brookes and Mr Ansell (Thurs/Fri)		
Year 6 and older educare children	Mrs Smith and Mrs Williams (Mon/Tues) Mrs Smith and Mrs Brocklesby (Thurs/Fri)	Lugger	Drop off: 08:50 – 09:10 Pick up: 2:40 – 3:00
Wednesday educare	Mr Roynon and a member of Mousehole Mice staff	Dinghy	Drop off: 0900. Pick up: 1500



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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.

Lunch and breaktime:

Children will eat their lunch in their groups with their assigned adults. The school kitchen will be providing a reduced menu of cooked food. Chartwells have compliant procedures in place to limit risk of transmission.

Uniform

As many children will not be in school and not wearing school uniform, children attending school will not be required to wear school uniform (they can if they wish). 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.

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 effected by staff having to focus on the pupils in school.

As far as practical, the children in school will study the same material as the children accessing learning via Seesaw at home with the added bonus of working with their peers and alongside staff. Additional activities will be tailored to the needs of the respective groups and will include as much time outside as is practical.

I hope the information in this letter will help you make your decision regarding returning to school. If you change your mind with regards to attending, please let us know so that we can plan for your child. Key workers must let us know by the Thursday before so we can cater for the numbers and ages of the pupils.

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 as we can.

If you haven't done so already, please inform the school of your choice, so that we can continue to embed our plans. You can use Seesaw or the email address below.

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.

Key Information

Below is a link below to the latest government information for parents and carers about the potential re-opening:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/reopening-schools-and-other-educational-settings-from-1-june>

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

With Best wishes at this difficult time and gratitude for your continued support and the many kind, positive messages we have received over recent weeks.



Chris Roynon



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