



Getting Back to School

Dear Parents and Carers

At last the time is drawing very near when we are able to get our young people back to school; to resume their studies, see all their friends, their teachers and start to get back to some sort of “normal”; for you and them!

We know how hard “lockdown” has been, but we also know how nervous and anxious everyone will be at the thought of coming back to school, getting into lessons and re-establishing friendships. We also know that for many, many pupils they will need to re-establish a more normal sleeping pattern, but don’t let them leave that “early night” until the night before their first day!

Please be assured that we will give our pupils lots of support, opportunities to talk, share, re-engage with their learning and just enjoy being with us.

Obviously to start with, some things will be a little different here in school, but we will also try to keep everything as structured and normal as possible so as not to overly worry our pupils as they get used to being in lessons again.

Working in partnership with you, we will try to minimise risk as much as we possibly can. If you could stress to your child the need to maintain social distancing wherever possible, not only in school, but also as they journey to and from school. If they use a bus, to wear a face covering and if they feel more comfortable wearing one during lesson time then of course they are able to do so.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/face-coverings-when-to-wear-one-and-how-to-make-your-own/face-coverings-when-to-wear-one-and-how-to-make-your-own>

We know that you will have lots of questions as we prepare for the start of term. We have tried to think of everything that you may need to know, or check, but do not hesitate to contact us at parents@wadebridge.cornwall.sch.uk if we have missed something or you have a specific question or query.

Thank you for your on-going support and let’s get our children back to school.

Miss Yardley

Start of term:

Friday 4th September 2020 for the new year 7 pupils – they should come to the Hall to be welcomed.

Monday 7th September 2020 for all year groups.

Transport:

A number of public bus routes (84 to be precise) used by school students will be temporarily ‘banned’ to the general public. The list can be found by following the link below. The link also includes information about the latest transport procedures and expectations of bus users.

<https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/schooltransport>

Timings of the Day:

There will be no change to our usual timings.

Arrangements for Monday 7th September 2020:

Tutor Time (8.40am)

Year 8 to 11 must go to their Tutor / room from **last year** to see their Tutor and prepare for the week.

Year 7 will again meet in the Hall.

Period 1

Pupils will spend the first hour of the day with their new Tutors sharing, talking and hearing about some of the changes that will be in place for the start of term

Movement Around School:

We have a planned system for moving around school to ensure that there is no face to face “crossing” in the corridors or places where a large number of pupils may come together at once

Luckily, we have a high number of classrooms that have Fire Exits and so these can be used to reduce movement on the main corridors and ensure that the majority of that movement will take place outside of the school buildings

Each year group will have an allocated “outside” space where they must stay at break and lunch time.

Pupils will not be able to mix with pupils from other year groups for the time being.

If the weather is wet or inclement then pupils can go to their Tutor rooms.

Cleaning:

Pupils will stay in their year group “bubbles” for all lessons.

Each pupil will be given a cloth in a protective bag to enable them to clean their individual work space at the start of every lesson. All teachers will have a sanitising spray which will be used on the desks.

Key boards or other specialised equipment will be cleaned using appropriate wipes

We will have extra cleaning staff on site during the day who will regularly clean “touch” areas such as door handles, the stair bannisters and toilets; although we will also wedge as many doors open as possible to reduce this level of contact.

Personal Hygiene:

All pupils will be encouraged and reminded to **wash their hands** regularly throughout the day.

Pupils will be encouraged to think about their respiratory hygiene through “**catch it, bin it, kill it**”.

Hand sanitiser will be available at key points around school, but we would ask that **ALL PUPILS bring their own hand sanitiser to school** so they can use it whenever they feel the need to and increase their confidence.

Break / Lunch / Use of the Canteen:

Please ensure that you have put **money onto your child’s account** via the on-line system if you want them to be able to buy food in the canteen, as we will be unable to clean the machines where pupils enter their “cash” after each use, and so will not be available for use by pupils.

We won’t be able to provide food at **breakfast club** for the first week due to the potential for pupils mixing, but we will review this as we move forward.

The **vending machine** will not be used for the same reasons.

Please encourage your child to bring their own **water bottle**. All our **water dispensers** use “push paddles” but these will also be regularly cleaned.

Pupils will only be able to **buy food** from the canteen at **one set time**:

Break – yr 11 in the senior canteen

Yr 8 in the junior canteen

Lunch – yr 9 and 10 (staggered times) in the senior canteen

Yr 7 in the junior canteen

Pupils will need to ensure that they have enough food / snacks / extra packed lunch for the day

In Lessons:

Pupils must ensure that they have their **own personal equipment** with them.

If any equipment has to be lent out then this will not be used by other pupils outside of that bubble. This includes subject specific equipment in subjects such as Design Technology and Art.

Where possible, all teachers will maintain at least a 2-metre distance from their pupils.

Any staff, particularly Teaching Assistants, who may need to come closer to pupils for a very short time, in order to help or support them, will have access to a visor to minimise risk.

Our Principal First Aiders will have full PPE available in order to support a pupil who needs attention.

Rewards and Sanctions:

We will continue to use ClassCharts in order to communicate with you at home when your child has done well or gained rewards such as “Star of the Week”.

However, we will also follow our **usual behaviour policy** if any pupil cannot, or will not follow reasonable instructions, especially if this links to our efforts to keep everyone as safe as possible. Every member of our community needs to feel confident, safe and happy in school and if this is compromised by an individual’s behaviour, then they will be isolated from their peers and you will be asked to come in to discuss a way forward.

Prevention:

In order to minimise contact with individuals who are unwell, have coronavirus symptoms or who have someone in their household who does, the school will follow the Government’s statutory guidance:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/guidance-for-full-opening-schools>