



Together we inspire, together we nurture, together we achieve.

1st March 2021

Monday 8th March – School Opening to ALL Pupils

Dear Parents/Carer

As indicated on Friday, I am enclosing the full arrangements for the re-opening of school to ALL pupils as instructed by the Government on Monday 8th March 2021. My apologies in advance as this will contain a lot of information, but I hope this will prove useful in reassuring you of the measures we are taking and more importantly, to discuss with your children and ensure that their understandable concerns and anxieties may be addressed.

The most important message to the children that I wish to stress is that fundamentally it is the same as it was from September to December – very little has changed and they have done it all before. Also, I want them to know how excited and happy we are about seeing them all again!

From Monday 8th March school attendance is mandatory; therefore if your child is not able to attend, please ensure you contact the school office prior to 9.30am, giving the reason of absence.

The rest of this letter is split into sections so that the information is easy to find and refer to as you go through it:

Class Bubbles/Pods:

As it was in September through to December, your child(ren) will be taught in their own 'class bubble/pod.' They will have their own separate entrance and exit to their room and staffing will be the same teachers and teaching assistants as it was before (unless cover is needed – where it will be covered in a Covid secure way by another member of staff) – this is exactly the same as it was before Christmas.

The classroom will be well ventilated. Therefore we kindly remind you to ensure that your children have appropriate layers on under their school uniform to ensure they are warm. The children will also be going outside for learning as much as possible as they did before – therefore they need appropriate clothing for this. This again, is exactly as it was from September to December when all the children were last in together.

In the event of a Covid case or closure of a bubble/pod – advised by the Department for Education or Public Health England, you will be informed immediately and we will move to our online learning provision as in lockdown by the very next day ideally, but no later than 48 hours after a closure.



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Hawks Tor Drive, Lewannick, Launceston, Cornwall PL15 7QY

☎ 01566 782262 🌐 lewannick.cornwall.sch.uk ✉ secretary@lewannick.net



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Drop Off in the Morning

These measures are remaining as they were for September through to December – we ask that you bring your child(ren) to school in the time slot outlined below. Please can we ask that you remain socially distanced and masks are encouraged for adults. Thank you.

The drop off times are staggered. Here is a reminder of the times for children in each class and we thank you for your co-operation in making this as Covid secure as possible:

Otters & Kestrels – drop off at school between 8.40am and 8.50am.

Foxes and Owls – drop off at school between 8.50am and 9am.

If you have children in classes that have different times, please bring them ALL at 8.50am.

If you need to contact a member of staff, please can we ask that in the first instance you email them or call the office to arrange a call. If it is information you wish to be passed on, please tell the member of staff on the gate – usually Mrs. Cook or myself on a Friday.

Pick Up in the Afternoon

We have reviewed the measures that were in place from September through to December and often at pick up time, the front car park became congested. Therefore, we are adapting these from Monday 8th.

For children in Fox and Owl Class, we are operating exactly the same as we did before. These children are to be collected between 3pm and 3.15pm from the front car park. Please can we remind you that social distancing is important and remains a key strategy in keeping our school as Covid secure as possible.

Children in Otters and Kestrels are to be collected between 3.15pm and 3.30pm from the playground at the back of the school. This time (to avoid congestion and cross over with the younger children), we are asking that you come into the school grounds via the gate into the field from the Village Hall car park. We are then asking you to make your way onto the playground and wait (socially distanced) for a member of staff to come out to dismiss your children from 3.15pm. If you are coming onto the playground to wait for your child, we are asking you to wear a face covering but these are NOT requested for the children.

A video will be posted onto our Facebook account this week to show you how this will happen.

If you have siblings in younger classes, we ask you to make your way around to the playground after collecting them to collect their siblings in either Fox or Owl Class.

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School Uniform

We are asking wherever possible children attend school in their uniform. As mentioned earlier, it is important that they have layers on under their uniform as classrooms will be well ventilated.

It is also important that the children have a PE kit in school and appropriate outdoor clothing as learning outside will take place wherever possible. Please ask your child's class teacher for further guidance on when PE is taking place and when they need kit etc.

Lunchtimes

These will take place exactly as they did before the Christmas break. We are offering a full cooked school lunch menu as before and packed lunch children can continue to bring lunch as they did before.

Please can we also ask that your child has a labelled water bottle for drinking, thank you.

Covid Safety Measures

The children will be continuing to wash their hands at least 6 times a day and especially before and after being outside and around eating. Again this is exactly the same as it was before.

The Government has tightened up its guidance on mask wearing for staff, therefore the children may notice that staff are wearing masks more around the building and in areas where keeping socially distant from other staff is challenging. This will not affect the way they work in the class bubbles/pods and children are not expected to wear masks at all. I wanted them to be aware of this so that it isn't a shock when they return. Staff will be using some video sessions this week to talk the children through this.

Staff are self-administering their Lateral Flow Tests twice a week on Sunday and Wednesday. This is a government directive and is aimed at identifying asymptomatic cases and reducing the risk of spread of the virus. Staff have already been undertaking these tests for four weeks now and the process is going well. Primary children are NOT being tested and I am unaware of plans to introduce this.

All other Covid safety measures remain in place as for September through to December.

After School Clubs

These will be commencing after the Easter break. We are currently recruiting a range of external providers to ensure that we can offer the widest, highest quality range of opportunities as we can. As soon as we have this provision finalised, we will write to you to let you know the arrangements for this.

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And finally...

The last thing I wish to say is that I am extremely proud and in awe of the community the school, the staff and especially yourselves and your children. I know this has been a hugely challenging period for everyone and remains so for all of us, but you are all continuing to do an amazing job of supporting the children and we simply can't wait to have them back!

Thank you for taking the time to read this lengthy letter and I hope it proves useful and reassuring prior to the return of ALL pupils on Monday 8th March.

If you have any questions in the meantime, please do get in touch with the school and we will be able to respond to your query.

Many thanks for all your support throughout.

Mr Fugill
Executive Head

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Lewannick CP School



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