



Pauntley Church of England Primary School

NEWSLETTER

10th July 2020



Our Termly Value: Truthfulness

'Jesus answered, I am the way and the truth and the life.'

John 14:6

I am glad to say that we have now begun to put in place our plans for reopening in September. The staff and I have tried really hard to ensure that the provision is as normal as it can be. The relaxation in social distancing expectations and bubbling has made life much easier and as such, with a few tweaks, we should be able to provide a fairly normal experience from September 2nd.

The Government guidance clearly states that children do not have to be restricted to bubbles for after school clubs and breakfast clubs; children do not need to be restricted to bubbles to retain integrity for siblings and staff may move freely between bubbles. This has meant that we can begin to provide the services you are used to and help provide the wrap around care that so many of you rely on.

It is, however, important to state that there will be some changes to how we run on a day-to-day basis.

Unfortunately, assemblies will not take place as a whole school to avoid close contact gathering over a long period of time. We will be exploring the option of running assemblies outdoors (particularly the much loved Friday Celebration). However, this will be weather dependent and needs a little coordination – so bear with us.

Also, there will be a requirement to clean areas of the school more regularly and to limit the number of shared resources that are utilised. Children and staff will be expected to ensure good hygiene is practiced at all times and where possible social distancing maintained (however, the government still recognise this is not possible at all times in Primary settings).

I will be sending out the school's risk assessment and reopening plans, in full, early next week and they will also be published on the school website.

Some of the key points that parents/carers may be asking about are:

Early Risers:

This provision will continue as normal from September. Children enter via Mrs Greaves fire door and go the the Early Risers room. Staff will sign children in.

After School Clubs:

This provision will continue as normal from September – please sign up in the first week. The list will be on a clipboard on a playground table. At the end of club (4.30) children will be picked up from the playground. Please note that there will be limited numbers for some clubs.

Protocol if a suspected case/confirmed case is found in school:

The school has a procedure in place to ensure interaction is minimised and that suspected cases are directed to testing options. We will be guided by Public Health England on the response to confirmed cases and will ensure that track and trace procedures are implemented as necessary.

Further guidance on your role as parents/carers will be issued next week with the risk assessment.

Supply Teachers/Visiting Coaches/Trips & Visitors

The guidance is clear that schools are now allowed to utilise supply agencies as necessary to provide cover. This really helps to alleviate the strain on potential school closures. Furthermore, it also means that we are able to consider school trips and experiences that enhance the children's learning. All extra provision will be risk assessed and we will ensure you are aware of the preventative measures being put in place.

School uniform

Government guidance is clear that there is no requirement to change uniform daily and therefore children will be expected to wear normal uniform each day.

Drop off/Pick Up

The nature of the school is that it is extremely difficult to manage pick up and drop offs utilising any kind of one-way system. Therefore, we ask parents/carers to please model social distancing when on the school grounds. Please ensure if you have to bring other siblings onto the grounds that they are kept with you and not allowed to run around freely. Ideally, we would urge parents to arrive, drop off and leave the site promptly so that we can minimise congestion.

Parents in school

Unfortunately, until further notice we will be asking that parents do not enter the school building.

We are hoping that as guidance changes, measures can relax and we will once again be able to invite you into school.

School Meals

Government guidance has stated that hot meals should be provided where possible. We are expecting to provide the usual service from Caterlink. The menu for September can be found on the website.

Attendance

The government guidance states that attendance in September is mandatory. However, we recognise that many of you will still be feeling anxious and as such, we urge you to talk through your worries with a member of the school team so that we can help and work together to resolve any issues.

Plans for a second spike

At present we are looking at alternative online learning resources to support children's education from home, should there be a need to do so in the future. The guidance given, requires this to be in place by the end of September 2020. Should a local lockdown be enforced, the likely response would be to, initially, shut the school and formulate a plan (similar to that during the first lockdown); communicate with parents of key workers in the first instance and reopen to provide the necessary cover.

Year 6 Leavers

One thing that we are hoping to do, early in Autumn, is to plan a proper send off for our Y6 cohort. Mrs Greaves and Mrs Tyler have been talking about the possibility of hosting some sort of gathering, picnic etc on the school grounds where children can meet and have a proper celebration. At present, nothing is set in stone and guidance restricts this type of gathering. However, we will ensure that something is done to mark this important milestone in their lives and gives them the opportunity to share with their friends as soon as possible.

Pots & Pans

A plea for any old metal pots and pans. Over the summer I am hoping to revamp the EYFS outdoor area and would love to provide a new music wall. If you have any, please deliver them to the school entrance before the holidays.

***Mr Larner
Headteacher***

Mr Larner's Joke :

Why did the cheesemonger walk with a limp?

He only had one stilt-on