

Pensans Community Primary School

Madron Road, Penzance, Cornwall TR20 8UH Headteacher: Ms A Clay BA(Hons)QTS head@pensans.cornwall.sch.uk www.pensansprimary.co.uk 01736 363627



15/05/2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Return to school update

As you know, the Government has asked schools to plan for the return of children in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 from the 1st June 2020 and other children later in the Summer term. We will be planning for Nursery, Reception and Year 1 to return first and then possibly Year 6 later in the term.

The safety of the children, families and staff will be our priority throughout all of our preparations. We are currently looking at the measures that need to be taken to ensure that risks are minimised, whilst being mindful that the Department for Education has stated that social distancing for primary aged children is not possible and that staff will not wear protective clothing when teaching.

The steps that we are planning include:

- Deep cleaning of the whole school.
- Regular cleaning of frequently used resources throughout the school day.
- Regular hand washing for staff and children.
- Hand sanitisers available throughout the school.
- Teaching groups of no more than 15 children at a time and keeping these groups socially distant from other groups in the school as the Department for Education recommends.
- Teaching outdoors as much as possible.
- Staggering arrival and departure times with social distancing measures in place for parents when bringing children to school and collecting them.
- A possible reduction of days/hours for children.
- No adults apart from staff in the building.

As I am sure you will appreciate, in order to prepare for the safe return of some of our children we need to plan carefully. To help us achieve this, we will only be open for children of key workers and vulnerable families over half term with no online provision during the week beginning 25th May.

The decision of whether your child returns after the 1st June remains with you; it is understandably a time of anxiety and uncertainty. Please be assured that the Department for Education has been clear that there will be no fines for nonattendance during this period.

You may have already spoken with your child's class teacher regarding whether or not you intend to send your child to school after June 1st. **To help us plan effectively, if your child is in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 or Year 6, please email us by Tuesday 19th May to tell us if you will or will not be taking up the provision offered -** <u>messages@pensans.cornwall.sch.uk</u>.

If you do intend to take up this provision, I respectfully ask that you and your household continue to strictly adhere to the social distancing recommended by the Government. Children attending school will be encountering individuals from up to 15 different households each day.

Thank you for your patience and support throughout the gradual process of opening up to more children. We miss you and are really looking forward to being safely back together.

Best wishes

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Angela Clay Headteacher