

Cardinham School



Grow your mind; aim high

CARDINHAM SCHOOL, CARDINHAM, BODMIN,
CORNWALL, PL30 4BN

Headteacher: Mrs Ingrid Bennett

Telephone: 01208 821326

Email: secretary@cardinham.cornwall.sch.uk

Website: www.cardinhamschool.co.uk

Tuesday 5th January 2021

RE: Cardinham School Opening for Some Pupils

Dear Parents & Carers,

I would like to begin by offering a huge ‘thank you’ for your patience over the past few days. Firstly, with our heating system breaking down – you’ll be pleased to know that it is back up and running - and then with the announcements of a second school closure; we are extremely appreciative that you’ve provided us with the time needed to make these arrangements.

We can confirm that Cardinham School be open for a small number of pupils from Wednesday 6th January. School is open for children who fall into two categories; you can find out more details about these groups here <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision> . If you feel that your child falls into either of these two categories and you haven’t already contacted us, please do so immediately.

The rest of this letter will outline the logistics of how we will be opening our school safely.

Please be reassured that the arrangements we have put in place are to ensure the safety of staff, pupils and parents. These arrangements have been put into place following a full risk assessment process and are in line with guidance from the Department for Education. We will continue to review the arrangements we have implemented and will update you with any changes as and when we make them. If you would like to talk to us about your child coming to school, please contact myself, Mr Jones or your child’s class teacher.

Opening Times & Organisation of Pupil Groups

The school will be closed every Monday to all pupils to allow our staff to continue to support remote learning. This additional day will also provide an opportunity to clean the school thoroughly.

The school office will continue to be operated; we ask that you contact the Administration Team by phone (01208 821326) or email (secretary@cardinham.cornwall.sch.uk) if necessary. **The school will be open to some pupils on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.** We will be teaching the children in two bubbles. Please see below for more information on how the groups will be organised and the times in which the children will be taught.

	Woodside Key Worker or Vulnerable Pupils in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 & Year 2	Main School Key Worker or Vulnerable Pupils in Year 3 to Year 6
Monday	School is Closed	School is Closed
Tuesday	Open between 9am & 2:50pm	Open between 8:50am & 3:00pm
Wednesday	Open between 9am & 2:50pm	Open between 8:50am & 3:00pm
Thursday	Open between 9am & 2:50pm	Open between 8:50am & 3:00pm
Friday	Open between 9am & 2:50pm	Open between 8:50am & 3:00pm

Where siblings have different start/finish times, families may pick one bubble's timings and drop and collect all siblings at the same time. When lining up to drop off and collect your children, we ask that parents/carers wear face masks and that only one parent/carer drops off and collects. We also ask that social distancing guidelines are adhered to at all times.

Teaching staff will operate on a rota basis. See below to see which members of staff will be working in each bubble; please be reassured that members of staff will not cross bubbles. As of yet, we are not in a position to confirm which staff will be working on each day but we will confirm this at the earliest opportunity.

	Woodside Key Worker or Vulnerable Pupils in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 & Year 2	Main School Key Worker or Vulnerable Pupils in Year 3 to Year 6
Teachers	Mrs Ashely Mrs Soper Miss Nute	Mr Jones Mrs Phillips Mr Wilson Miss Hepworth
Teaching Assistants	Miss Hooke Mrs Harding	Miss Heartwood Ms Thomas Mrs Stockman

Other Important Information

- **Breakfast Club and After School Club** will not be running at the moment.
- Children are to come to school **wearing school uniform**. We ask that they also bring a warm coat and wellies should an opportunity arise to head outside when the weather suits.
- All children are to bring a **packed lunch** to school.

Maintaining a Safe School Environment

We would like to reassure you that the safety of our school community is the highest priority. We have already touched on a few of the arrangements that we have made to mitigate the risk to pupils and parents. Further arrangements can be read below. These arrangements have been put into place following a full risk assessment process and are in line with guidance from the Department for Education. We will continue to review the arrangements we have implemented and update you with any changes as and when we make them.

We recognise that some of you may have some concerns about your child returning to school and that for some children another change will be unsettling for them. If you would like to talk to us about your child and any concerns you have about their return to school, please contact Mrs Bennett, Mr Jones or your child's class teacher.

Please note: it is very important for parents to understand that it is not possible to socially distance pupils in school.

"We know that, unlike older children and adults, early years and primary age children cannot be expected to remain 2 metres apart from each other and staff." DfE Planning guide for primary schools 14/5/20

In our school we are doing all that we can to mitigate risks, and as part of this we are placing a strong emphasis on social distancing measures. Therefore, each group will be treated as a separate unit and drop off/collection arrangements, movement around the school site and all other everyday procedures have been adapted accordingly.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind you of the preventative measures the school has put in place since the beginning of June in order to minimise the spread of infection. These measures will continue to be in place this term.

As per the advice from the government, the following actions for infection control remain in place:

- Encouraging good hygiene by promoting the importance of handwashing for at least 20 seconds with warm water and soap in the following circumstances:
 - Before leaving home
 - On arrival at school
 - After using the toilet
 - After breaks and sporting activities
 - Before food preparation
 - Before eating any food, including snacks
 - Before leaving school
 - At regular intervals throughout the day
- Installing alcohol-based hand sanitiser dispensers that contain at least 60 percent alcohol throughout the school.
- Ensuring pupils and staff understand that they must cover their cough or sneeze with a tissue, then dispose of the tissue safely.
- Keep doors and windows open where this is safe to do so and whilst maintaining a comfortable temperature in the classroom.
- Ensuring frequently touched objects and surfaces are cleaned and disinfected more regularly than usual.
- Displaying coronavirus infection control measures information posters around the school.

As an important part of our school community, I would ask that you continue to encourage good infection control practices, such as thorough handwashing, at home and keep your child informed about the things they can do to discourage the spread of infection.

In line with the current NHS and government advice, you should keep your child at home if they develop coronavirus symptoms. Symptoms include a high temperature, a change/loss of sense of taste and smell or a new, continuous cough. Where symptoms continue after seven days, or begin to worsen, you should call 111. If someone in your child's household has symptoms, your child must self-isolate for 14 days. More information regarding symptoms/ actions can be found on the NHS website (<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>).

If you think your child may have been exposed to or has coronavirus, if they develop symptoms or if your child receives a positive test result for coronavirus, please contact the school on 01208 821326 at the earliest opportunity.

The following procedure is taken directly from our risk assessment and are the steps that will be taken should a child become unwell at school:

“Parents/carers/pupils/staff must not attend school if they have symptoms of coronavirus. When a person develops any signs of an illness at school, they will require a temperature check. If a pupil/adult is coughing continuously, has a temperature that is greater than 38 degrees, has had a change to their taste or smell or are vomiting, they will be isolated in Jay Class. A pupil will be accompanied by a member of staff wearing PPE. Parent/carers will be telephoned for an immediate pickup. When pupil/staff has left, a deep clean of Jay Class and the classroom space will be completed as soon as possible. The pupil/staff member must have a Covid-19 test. If negative, the pupil/staff member can return to school when well enough. If positive, it is likely that Public Health will require all members of the class bubble to stay home and isolate for 14 days. The classroom will then have an infection clean by contract cleaners.”

Arrangements for the Start and End of the School Day

The beginning and end of the school day are the busiest times for children and adults gathering together in one place, maintaining safe distances within normal arrangements can be a challenge. We have implemented the following measures for when pupils return to school:

- Staggered start and finish times, please see table above
- Only one parent to drop off/pick up please, maintaining social distancing.
- Parents to use the one way system whilst dropping off and collecting children.
- Where siblings have different start/finish times, families may pick one year groups timings and drop and collect all siblings at the same time.
- Parents to collect children from the playground the allocated departure time, please park safely and maintain social distancing whilst waiting for your child.
- We normally love to have a chat with you and welcome you in, but at present we ask you not to enter the school unless an appointment has been made by prior arrangement.

Continuing Support for Pupils and Families

We do not underestimate how difficult the recent months have been for us all and we will all have been touched in some way by the coronavirus pandemic. We recognise the need to focus on pupils' emotional wellbeing as well as their learning. Parents may wish to seek support for themselves from support agencies. Some of the main support providers are listed below:

- A variety of support information can be found on the government website, www.gov.uk
- Samaritans – call free 24 hours a day on 116 123
- National Domestic Abuse Helpline – call for free and confidential advice, 24 hours a day on 0808 2000 247
- Shelter provide free confidential information, support and legal advice on all housing and homelessness issues if you call 0330 0536 083 (please note, this is not a free phone number and your call will be charged). A free webchat is available at https://england.shelter.org.uk/get_help/webchat
- Penhaligon's Friends - a Cornish charity supporting bereaved children, young people, parents and carers throughout the county. Call 01209 210624.
- Wadebridge Foodbank – helping local people in crisis. <https://www.wadebridgefoodbank.org/> . In some situations the school is able to issue vouchers enabling our families to access support from the food, please email us if you feel you need support.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher should any questions arise. We are always happy to discuss any questions that you may have.

Best wishes,

Mrs I Bennett
Headteacher