



GORRAN SCHOOL

Gorran, St Austell
Cornwall, PL26 6LH

Headteacher Mr Jonathan Sleep

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Dear Parents

As I am sure that you know, the Government has decided that children from Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 should go back to school from, "June 1st at the earliest". This decision has understandably caused a lot of discussion and anxiety amongst parents and staff, so I thought that I would write and share our plans, so that you can make a more informed decision. As it stands, we are planning to re-open on **Wednesday 3rd June**, to allow the classrooms to be prepared and the kitchen staff to have COVID-19 training.

- We will teach each year group in their own "bubble" with their own teacher and class support if we can. Each class has its own wash basins and toilets, so they can be self-sufficient.
- Classrooms will be set out to encourage social distancing, with excess chairs and soft furnishings removed where possible.
- School start and finish times will be staggered to reduce the number of people coming in/out of school at a time. Break and lunch times will also be staggered. **Please see page two.**
- Children will go straight to their classrooms when they arrive at school. They will not be allowed to play freely before or after school.
- Parents will not be allowed on to the school premises and will be expected to maintain social distancing outside the school.
- We will continue to provide child care provision for children of key workers who have no other means of providing care for their children.
- We will continue to provide child care provision for vulnerable children.
- Cleaning of the school will continue throughout the school day, particularly of surfaces, chair backs, door handles, hand rails and toilets.
- Children will be encouraged to wash their hands regularly throughout the day: soap, paper towels and cleaning products will be available in each class area.
- The governors had decided that because we have mixed age classes and as the teachers will still have to plan work for those children not in school, they should have time to do this, and so **we will only be open to Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 children from Monday to Thursday**. This will effectively mean four days in school and one day of home schooling on Friday.
- Years 2, 3, 4 and 5 will continue to receive work for home learning until we are notified otherwise.
- Hot meals will be provided by the school kitchen.
- Pupils or staff with any symptoms COVID will not be permitted into the school and will need to self-isolate for two weeks.

I have to be honest and tell you what I am sure that you already know: these measures are designed to reduce social contact, but we cannot promise to always maintain the 2m distancing. It is hard to help a child who is stuck, from 2m away (embarrassing for the child too!); similarly, we cannot administer first aid to a child from a distance. Keeping four and five-year-old children apart is nearly impossible, but we will try our best.

I am sure that you will think hard about sending your child back and I hope that this letter will help you. We will respect your decision whatever you choose. The government has said that they will not prosecute non-attending families.

On the back of this letter are the specific details of starting and finishing times. Please remember that all of this planning depends on the government's decision on 28th May and our continued ability to have enough staff to cover the class sizes, so it may all change again! A detailed risk assessment is on the Safeguarding page of our website: click [here](#)

As always, if you have any questions, please do contact us at school. Thank you all for your support in these difficult times.

Yours faithfully,

Jonathan Sleep



Initial Plan for welcoming back Reception, Year 1 and Year 6

Start of the day times:

8:45 Year 6 and Year 1

Please drop your children at the school gates – Year 6 at the car park gates and Year 1 at the pedestrian entrance gate. A member of staff will be there to welcome your child and direct them to their class.

9:00 Reception Class and key workers

Please drop your children at the school gates – Reception at the car park gates and Key Worker children at the pedestrian entrance gate. A member of staff will be there to welcome your child and direct them to their class.

Key Workers who have specific needs should contact the office to discuss these.

End of the school day:

Your children will be brought to the same gates as they entered for you to collect. Please respect social distancing as you wait.

3:15 Year 6 and Year 1

3:30 Reception and Key worker children

Answers to questions that we have been asked so far:

- **Please note that school will only be open on Fridays for the children of key workers.**
- **Your child should be in school uniform. If they have grown out of their uniform and you have been unable to replace it, please try to dress them as closely to the uniform as possible.**
- **To avoid sharing resources, please send your child in with everything that they will need – pens, pencils, drinks bottle, lunch, etc. No toys please.**
- **The kitchen will be open and supplying meals for those who need them.**
- **There will be no fresh fruit available, so you will need to provide your own snacks for breaktimes.**
- **The full risk assessment for our 're-opening' is on the school website, in the safeguarding section. The link is here.**
- **If your child is showing symptoms of COVID-19, please do not send them to school.**
- **If someone in your family home is in the 'shielded' category, then you should not send your child back. You will know whether you fall into this group because the shielded person will have received an official letter.**

We are really aware how much anxiety there is about the planned return to school, and I hope that you can see that we are trying to think of everything. Thank you again for your support so far and please keep working with us.