



believe & achieve

September 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

As we begin our third full week back at school, it seemed appropriate to offer some guidance and support in understanding the complexities of the continuing health crisis and how we as a school community can keep ourselves safe. The students and staff have responded positively to the changes to the school day and its daily management, but here are some important reminders and guidance to support the safe operation of the school.

Arriving to and from school

- Students **should not be on site before 8.15am or after 3.15pm** unless they have an after-school detention or Intervention session on Tuesday or Thursday only.
- We have slightly staggered finish times to allow students to remain socially distanced from those not in their bubble. Please discourage students from meeting others once the day has finished to avoid 'cross bubble' interaction
- We have additional school buses to transport our students but these need to park in the bus bay on the main road- please refrain from parking there when on pick up or drop off

'Hands, Face, Space'

Following the government guidance, we encourage all of our students to:

- **Wash Hands**- we support this by hand sanitizing on exit and entry to all classrooms. We encourage students to bring their own hand sanitizer to school- as long as it retains at least 70% alcohol content or is an NHS permitted variant of non-alcohol solution, it is allowed. Students should have a small amount no larger than 100ml on their person.
- **Wear a Face mask**- this is done in all 'communal inside' areas to include corridors and canteen areas
- **Make Space**- ensuring that when and where possible, social distancing is adhered to. Students should be trying to avoid physical contact with each other, even when in the same bubble and particularly during their social times.

COVID-19 Symptoms

We are currently entering the season for cold and flu symptoms, some of which are similar to those of COVID-19. Please can we remind you that the three symptoms where a student should need to self-isolate and test are as follows:

- a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature but generally a high temperature is above 37.8 degrees)



- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

What happens if my child falls ill with COVID-19 symptoms at school?

- Should a student display any symptoms at school, they will be sent to our triage rooms to self-isolate, and spoken to by one of our First Aiders until a parent/carer is called to collect them which we will need to happen as soon as possible
- Please arrive to collect your child at the West Gate entrance, not Reception and press the intercom and select Number 2 to speak to our Student Services Secretary
- On collection of your child, we will then issue you with a work-pack and letter outlining some further advice on what to do next in terms of self-isolation and actions.

What happens if my child falls ill with COVID-19 symptoms at home?

- Communicate this with school swiftly through a telephone call to Reception on 01726 874520- leave a message if necessary which clearly states the symptoms your child is displaying. We will expect you to attempt to book a test either by calling 119 or accessing the booking website <https://self-referral.test-for-coronavirus.service.gov.uk/antigen/name>
- Once we have been notified of COVID-19 related student absence, we will communicate with you in regards to how access to Remote Learning activities and further guidance in terms of the self-isolation required.
- Staff may need to contact you via email where possible, so please ensure that we have an accurate email address for you- leaving this on the main school voicemail message if needed.

What happens if my child is unwell at home but not displaying COVID-19 symptoms?

- Communicate this with school swiftly through a telephone call to Reception on 01726 874520- leave a message if necessary which clearly states the symptoms your child is displaying.
- Having a clear understanding of the reasons for absence is crucial to maintaining accurate attendance records for your child.

How will the school provide work for my child?

It is our hope that all students will be able to access full time, face to face lessons. Where this is not possible due to government guidance on self-isolation, we will provide work for students to be able to complete their school work from home. This will be called Remote Learning.

Remote Learning for Short Term Absence – up to 14 days

- Student will be provided with a Remote Learning Resource Pack which is either given directly to the student or emailed to the student
- The pack will also be emailed to the email address we hold for the parent/carer.
- The tasks are expected to be completed on paper within the resource pack.
- If you do not have access to IT or the internet please make us aware of this and a paper copy of the pack will be posted home.

Remote Learning for Longer Term Absence – Enforced isolation due to COVID-19

- Using an electronic platform (Microsoft Teams).
- Further details of the process of how students will learn remotely via this platform will be shared at a later date.

Home Learning (Homework)

All home learning will continue regardless of whether a student is learning in the classroom or remotely and will be set on ClassCharts.

If you have any further questions regarding remote learning, please contact our Assistant Headteacher for Teaching and Learning swalker@poltair.cornwall.sch.uk

We do appreciate your support in trying to ensure your child attends school where possible, and your understanding in discussing and reminding your child of needing to take responsibility where they can for keeping themselves and our whole school community safe.

Please get in contact with us should you have any further questions by contacting secretary@poltair.cornwall.sch.uk

Yours sincerely,



Miss G Owens

Assistant Headteacher- Safety and Attendance