



Plympton St. Maurice Primary School
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Headteacher: Mrs. S. J Tustain B.Ed. (Hons)

9th November 2020

Dear Parents,

I hope that this letter finds you and your families in good health, as we adjust to the requirements of another national lockdown. In light of additional guidelines that were issued to schools by the Department for Education shortly before the start of lockdown on Thursday 5th November, I thought that I would take the opportunity to update you on some additional control measure that we have put into place to safeguard our school community.

- Under current plans, all schools will continue to remain open for all children for the duration of the national restrictions.
- New guidance received over the weekend indicates that we are now able to reinstate PAFC after school activities, which will re-commence TOMORROW (Tuesday 10th November).
- Where possible, we are trying to ensure that all PE activities take place outside. When using the main hall, we are ensuring the room is well ventilated and that any equipment is thoroughly cleaned after use.
- There has been no change to the requirements from the government for face coverings to be worn in primary schools. We will continue to follow the Trust policy of ensuring that all adults wear a face covering in all communal areas around the school. Staff will not be required to wear a face covering in classrooms when teaching unless they choose to do so.
- We continue to operate tight restrictions on any parent or carer entering the school building. We have also suspended any voluntary or work experience placements within the school until further notice. We will continue to operate a policy of meeting with parents over the phone or online during the remainder of the autumn term.
- Professional agencies, such as Counsellors and Educational Psychologists, can continue visiting the school, but we will be keeping this to essential purposes only. When on site, staff will be required to wear face coverings and follow all of the measures we have in place.
- New procedures have been introduced across the school from today limiting any member of staff working across 'bubbles' of children.
- We will continue to operate separate lunch times for individual year groups to ensure that the children don't have any contact with other children outside their year group during the day.
- All staff meetings are now being held virtually to minimise contact between staff and ensure that we are not congregating staff in one area.

In line with government and scientific advice, we are also trying to ensure that classrooms and teaching spaces are well ventilated. At different times of the day, windows and doors will be opened and it would be beneficial if children are provided with warm clothing as we move towards the colder months. We will ensure that appropriate temperatures are maintained in teaching spaces and ventilation will take place during break and lunch times.

To support our measures, we would please ask all parents to continue to ensure that the following procedures are followed in line with the requirements of current national measures:

- All adults to continue to wear a face covering when on the school site
- Ensure that only one adult member of the household accompanies your child/children onto and off the site to minimise numbers on the playground
- Avoid congregating with other parents or carers, either on the school site or outside in the surrounding residential area
- Ensure that children are not mixing with other children outside of school hours in line with current national restrictions.

If your child is unwell and not able to attend school, we would please ask that you notify the school office at either st.maurice.primary.school@plymouth.gov.uk or by telephone at 01752 337427. Messages can be left on the answerphone at any time.

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, they must not come to school and should remain at home for at least 10 days from the date when their symptoms appeared. Anyone with symptoms will be eligible for testing and this can be arranged via <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test> or by calling 119. All other household members who remain well, must stay at home and not leave the house for 14 days. This includes anyone in your 'Support Bubble'.

Your child's class teacher will provide home learning for your child, accessed remotely via MS Teams should they need to self-isolate at home. and will be put into place after we have received confirmation from a parent that the child will not be in school. In line with normal provision, we won't provide home learning materials if your child is ill or unable to attend school for any other reason that is non-Covid related.

We hope that this update provides you with a clear overview of the additional control measures that we have put in place to safeguard our school community during this period of additional national measures. Should you have any questions about any of the information outlined above, please don't hesitate to contact me at sarah-jane.tustain@psmps.co.uk

We thank you for your continued support during these challenging times for us all.



With kind regards,

Mrs Sarah Jane Tustain
Head teacher

