



Plan & Guidance for Parents

9th Nov 2020

We aim for all pupils to be
'successful, confident, responsible citizens'

Plympton St Maurice Primary School continues to follow advice and guidance from the DfE (Department for Education), PHE (Public Health England), Plymouth Local Authority and WeST (Westcountry Schools Trust) to ensure we remain vigilant and up to date on processes, protocols and updating parents. This updated guide explains our plans.

We want to explain all the measures we continue to put in place and to reassure you that we will do everything we can to ensure that the health and safety of pupils remains our top priority. Our planning will mean that your child/children can access school without concern. We will continue to monitor and update our plans, in line with the government guidance. Plympton St Maurice Primary School has proactively and successfully managed the impact of the pandemic to date and wish for this to continue in the future.

After school Clubs

We will continue to provide after school clubs provided by Plymouth Argyle Football Club, for those classes who work with PAFC during the normal school day. (Details to be sent to parents separately)

Attendance

It is vital for all children to attend school to minimise as far as possible the longer-term impact of the pandemic on children's education, well-being and wider development. Those children with higher overall absence tend to achieve less in both primary and secondary school. School attendance will therefore be closely monitored again from the beginning of the autumn term.

This means that from September, the usual rules apply. School starts, as normal at 8:50am with doors opening at 8:45am, so that children are not rushed coming into school. Before the start of school day, please do not arrive on the playground too early.

If your child is unwell, we recommend that parents contact the GP in the usual way. Medical advice is available 24/7, please telephone 111. If your child is going to be absent from school, **for whatever reason**, we ask that you contact the school, tel: 01752 337427 or email:

st.maurice.primary.school@plymouth.gov.uk. If your child receives a positive test result at the weekend please email: sarah-jane.tustain@psmps.co.uk

Bubble groups

Each class will be treated as a separate 'bubble' to reduce grouping children together and to avoid contact between other groups. We aim to keep bubbles separate at lunch and playtimes, with new guidance and rotas in place. We will continue with staggered break and lunchtimes. All children will eat their lunch in their own classrooms. In the playground class groups/bubbles have designated places to play.

'Catch it, bin it, kill it' approach

At all times, we will continue to promote good respiratory hygiene. Children are encouraged to always carry tissues and to sneeze or cough into a tissue, dispose of the tissue in the lidded bin and then wash their hands as soon as possible. All classrooms have lidded bins.

Classrooms

Tables continue to be in rows facing the front of the classroom for pupils to sit side by side and be forward facing. This will maximise the distance between teachers and pupils. Children will have their own 'tool kits' to avoid sharing of pencils and other resources as much as possible. Resources such as books and games can be used and shared within the bubble but will be cleaned regularly. Any resources, such as science equipment can be used across bubbles but will be left untouched and out of reach for a period of 48 hrs.

Please limit from home any items brought into school. Only bring to school necessary items, such as their PE kit.

Each classroom door has been fitted with (fire safe) door guards which allow doors to remain open to eliminate people touching door handles and to keep classrooms well ventilated.

Cleaning

Rigorous cleaning and disinfecting of classrooms, furniture and toilets will take place at the start, end and throughout the day. Cleaning includes common touchpoints, such as door handles, light switches, taps and soap dispensers. Tables are wiped in the classroom after children have finished eating.

Communication

We will continue to communicate via text, school website, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Tapestry (Foundation class only) and our weekly newsletters. It is really important that we have correct and up to date information. Please could you inform the office if you have changed your telephone number or moved house so that we can update our systems. Communication is key for smooth operations and keeping you up to date with the ever-changing guidance and systems.

Covid-19 Signs and Symptoms

We ask that if someone in the household has Covid-19, that the child does not come to school. Anyone who displays symptoms whilst in school, will be isolated immediately and parents contacted. Anyone who displays symptoms can and should get a test. Tests can be booked online through the NHS testing and tracing for coronavirus website or ordered by telephone via the NHS 119. We ask parents to inform the school immediately of the test results. If someone tests negative they can stop self-isolating. If someone tests positive they should follow the 'stay at

home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus infection' and must continue to self-isolate for at least 10 days from the onset of their symptoms. If positive, advice will be provided with guidance from PHE. The school is only required to notify parents of pupils affected and will update all as required.

- We know that children have already missed a lot of teaching time this year and understand that it is important to find the balance between identifying everyone who may be at a genuine risk of developing infection while not asking children and staff to self-isolate unnecessarily.
- The time when people who have tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) are infectious to others is from 2 days before the onset of symptoms to 10 days afterwards (or from 2 days prior to the date of their test to 10 days afterwards if they have had no symptoms).
- Only people who came into contact with the individual who has had a positive test result for coronavirus (COVID-19) during this time need to be advised to self-isolate.

Covid-19 Testing

Testing facilities are available at our nearest NHS testing centre which is at Derriford. NHS testing is now available to anyone in the UK that is showing COVID-19 symptoms, including under 12s. If a child displays symptoms, they will be required to take a test. Schools have a limited number of testing kits, should a family require one. Please let us know.

Extra-Curricular Clubs

Plymouth Argyle Football Club will be running their clubs, as normal but for the year group/bubble they are working with during the normal school day.

Face Masks

All staff, unless exempt for medical reasons, are expected to wear face coverings in all communal areas. This will include – corridors, staffrooms, staff toilets and whilst undertaking duties at break/lunch times in enclosed spaces such as dining halls or in a classroom, if this is not their bubble base. However, even with face coverings in use, appropriate social distancing and hand sanitisation should still apply. Face coverings are not expected to be worn in the classroom by staff or pupils, however staff or pupils may choose to do so. At this stage primary pupils are not expected to wear face masks in school but may wish to do so in communal areas. Please note that if a pupil chooses to wear a face mask and it becomes wet or uncomfortable, or is regularly fiddled with/removed this arrangement will need to be reviewed. Pupils must not swap face masks with other children.

Hand Sanitiser

Automated hand sanitiser dispensers are available along the school corridor and staff are required to make use of them regularly. Hand sanitiser is also available in every classroom. All visitors to the site will be required to use anti-bacterial hand sanitiser.

Hand Washing

Thorough handwashing routines will be implemented throughout the school day. Pupils will be asked to wash their hands when they arrive in school, before and after play time, before and after lunch time and at the end of the day before returning home. There are sinks in every classroom. We have also installed 3 outside sink units to provide additional outside taps.

Home Learning

Over the last few months, school has shown that it can deliver home learning to a very high standard while the school has been closed. We have now developed this further with Microsoft Teams to communicate with parents and pupils who are at home having to self-isolate.

Learning

Our Foundation and Key Stage 1 children are learning their phonics with Read Write Inc in their own class bubbles and will not mix with other bubbles. DfE guidance states that ideally adults should maintain a 2m distance from each other, and from children. We know that it is not always possible, particularly when working with younger children, but if adults can do this when circumstances allow, it will help.

As much as possible, our curriculum remains broad, so that pupils are taught a full range of subjects over the year, including science, art, geography and history. Some pupils will receive additional support from teachers and teaching assistants. Some children are receiving additional learning to be completed at home and school to try to 'catch-up' on some of the learning time missed during the period of school closure.

Where possible, teachers are advised to stand 2m from pupils and therefore marking children's learning will take place after a lesson, at the end of the day, instead of 'at the point' of learning during lesson time. Similarly, teachers will continue to hear children read, but will not be recording or making written comments in pupil's reading record books.

Learning Reviews (Parents Evenings)

During the autumn term we are unable to hold learning review meetings face to face. However, parents will have an opportunity to discuss with the class teacher any successes and concerns via telephone, email or Microsoft Teams. As we were unable to have end of year assessments, this meeting will have a pastoral focus rather than attainment and progress.

Lunch

A hot meal option continues to be available to order from the school kitchen. All meals (hot and cold) will be eaten in classrooms. Timings of each bubble/year group will be staggered to allow separate playtimes outside. Please pay for meals in the usual way.

Playground Equipment

We ask parents, with children playing on our equipment before and after school that they continue to social distance and stay 2m apart. We ask that numbers of children playing on equipment are restricted. When children have finished playing on the equipment, please can ALL parents ensure children's hands are wiped with sanitiser gel or sanitising wet wipes which are then disposed of in the bin immediately after use. We ask that children do not eat or drink whilst accessing the play equipment.

As much as possible, our playground equipment is sprayed with disinfectant every evening after school.

School Uniform

We expect all pupils to wear normal school uniform. Uniforms do not need to be cleaned any more often than usual, nor do they need to be cleaned using methods which are different from normal. Please let us know if your child needs a new sweatshirt as school has a small amount of good condition school uniform should any child need it. On days when children have PE/Games, we ask children come to school in their PE kit, wearing their school sweatshirts, PE tops underneath and black shorts or track suit bottoms.

Social Distancing and Gatherings

In order to avoid social gathering on the playground, we politely ask parents to socially distance from each other and avoid waiting in groups, particularly when collecting at the end of the day. We have introduced a one-way system to encourage a steady flow of people entering and exiting the school's playgrounds and request ONE parent only to drop off/collect children. Please can Foundation, Year 2 and Year 4 pupils use the back playground to drop off/collect each day and parents to exit (as swiftly as possible) via the staff car park.

School starts as normal, at 8:50am and finishes as normal, at 3:10pm for Foundation and 3:15pm for Yr 1-6.

DfE guidance recommends for groups/bubbles to be kept apart, meaning that schools should avoid large gatherings such as whole school assemblies. Unfortunately we will not be holding our school performances in the usual way.

As a reminder to children and adults to socially distance we have marked our corridor and school paths in 2m intervals.

Sports

We are fortunate to have spacious grounds to ensure children can exercise whilst being socially distant. To keep the entire school community safe, we will do everything we can to reduce contact between people and avoid large groups congregating together. Sports and activities will be

conducted outside as much as possible in such a way as to remove points of contact. PE/Games plans are being revised to allow as much PE as possible to take place outside.

Temperature Checks

We ask parents to check their child's temperature every morning before coming to school and once again after coming home at the end of the day. Should children feel unwell, school has infrared temperature checking facilities.

Trips and Excursions

Unfortunately, there will be no class trips until further notice. Due to government guidance our June 2021 residential trip has been cancelled.

Visitors

Updated protocols on visitors to the school building are in place. Our car park barrier system and gate control restricts access to visitors from outside the school. All necessary visitors (school nurse, educational psychologist etc) to the school will be required to use hand sanitiser, wear a face covering and leave their contact details should we need to contact them in the future. No parents will be allowed inside the school building. Unfortunately coming onto the school site without an appointment is not allowed.

Worried or anxious?

We recognise that good mental health is essential for pupils to thrive in school. Many of our teaching assistants are specifically trained to support children's emotional needs (ELSA's). Through the Plymouth Excellence Cluster multi-agency support team (MAST), we can refer children for counselling or drama/art therapy and support parents by providing Family Support Workers. We currently welcome Gaynor Winsor, a Family Worker into school every Monday morning (9-11am), for any parents who wish to speak, confidentially, to her regarding any anxieties or concerns they have during this challenging time.



Public Health
England

Staff or children with suspected or confirmed COVID-19?

A new continuous cough?

OR

Fever?

OR

Loss or change
in taste or smell?

3. Small numbers!

4. Avoid/ reduce mixing

2. Clean! Clean! Clean!

1. Wash your hands!

5. Declutter and
reduce sharing

All of these measures help
to prevent the spread of
infection and will therefore
protect staff and children

Isolate and test!

Call 119 or use NHS online portal

FOR A

SUSPECTED OR CONFIRMED CASE

Contact your local

Health Protection Team (PHE) on

0300 303 8162 or swhpt@phe.gov.uk

CATCH IT

Germs spread easily. Always carry tissues and use them to catch your cough or sneeze.



BIN IT

Germs can live for several hours on tissues. Dispose of your tissue as soon as possible.



KILL IT

Hands can transfer germs to every surface you touch. Clean your hands as soon as you can.

