

21st May 2020

Coronavirus - COVID-19 – Update

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you and your family continue to be well.

You will have received a letter from heads in each school on Tuesday of this week. We put together a link to a survey to help schools to plan for the week after half term. We have received over 600 responses so far, thank you for taking the time to fill in the information to help staff at each school to plan for the coming weeks.

The link to the previous survey results regarding our online provision of learning can be found here: <https://www.bridgeschools.co.uk/downloads> then navigate to May 2020 Home Learning Survey.pptx . Again, thank you for completing the survey and the very **strongly positive message from 84% of parents** that we are getting things right to help you with home learning. If we can open to successive year groups, we aim to replicate the learning taking place in classrooms in our online learning as far as possible. This keeps parity for children and means staff don't have to plan for two completely different learning sets.

We have completed risk assessments for the schools, purchased over £3,500 of additional cleaning and sanitising materials for the schools and are working with heads in each of the schools to ensure there is enough staffing to open safely. For this reason, Trenode will need to continue to hub with Looe and Gunnislake with Delaware, so far we are able to open all other sites from Tuesday 2nd June to children of key workers, vulnerable and Year 6. We will be spending the half term holiday completing deep cleans in each of the school sites and then have an enhanced cleaning regime in place for our return.

We ask that parents respect all the social distancing measures in place on school sites and follow the signage guidance you will see around the schools. For your own, and the safety of the school community, please do not enter building unless invited to do so by a member of staff. School offices will be manned from Tuesday 2nd June but please do not go into school. Please email the schools or telephone in an emergency. This is all counterintuitive to how we would usually run a welcoming school with lots of social contact, but we all understand it is for everyone's safety we need to manage things differently for the time being.

All schools will close to all children from the end of the day tomorrow, Friday 22nd May until Tuesday 2nd June.

Parent refunds are being processed as we speak, please be patient as most year groups will have had one trip or another planned for the summer term meaning we have over 2000 refunds to make over the next few weeks. We are obviously seeking redress from providers to ensure schools do not lose money.

We have all been working long days to keep provision running and plan for the next phase of opening, however we will be informed at the same time as you through a broadcast on Thursday 28th May from the government on whether their five criteria have been met and they feel it is safe to ask schools to open. As this may not take place until the evening, **we will confirm our plans to you on Friday 29th May.**

We live in peculiar times. We need to take every possible action to keep us all safe and continue to provide useful, memorable and enjoyable learning for all our children. We hope to return to something approaching normal in the coming weeks. I hope you are all able to enjoy some time together over the half term holiday. Thank you for all your support to schools, staff and each other. We very much look forward to seeing more of our children in our schools soon.

With all good wishes,

Adrian Massey and everyone at Bridge Schools.