



HARROWBARROW SCHOOL

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Friday 18th September 2020

Parent & Carer Updates

Dear Parents & Carers,

As we reach the end of another week I have a few Covid related updates to share. I know of some local schools that have already experienced class and year group closures due to members of their school community receiving a positive test for the virus. At this stage, we are fortunate to be unaffected but continue to be vigilant in our protective measures and planning for every eventuality.

Department for Education (DfE) school's Coronavirus helpline

This week the DfE launched a dedicated Coronavirus helpline for school senior leaders. It is intended to provide advice and support as we try to navigate our way through this challenging time.

Visitors to the school

Up until now we have strictly limited the number of visitors to the school to reduce the risk of transmission. DfE guidance states that *'supply teachers, peripatetic teachers and other temporary staff can move between schools. They should ensure they minimise contact and maintain as much distance as possible from other staff. Specialists, therapists, clinicians and other support staff for pupils with SEND should provide interventions as usual. Schools should consider how to manage other visitors to the site, such as contractors, and ensure that the risks associated with managing contractors, visitors, catering staff and deliveries, as well as cleaning staff on site who may be working throughout the school and across different groups, are addressed'*. All contractors that provide services such as monthly legionella tests or fire alarm servicing are being asked to attend outside of school hours where possible. They are also being asked to wear face coverings and observe our hygiene measures.

We are now welcoming back peripatetic music teachers as we feel this is an important part of children's education and supports their emotional health and wellbeing. We have been working with these tutors to risk assess their planned work and put protective measures in place. The same measures also apply to specialist external staff that support our pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND).

One way system

I am aware that as the weather turns more autumnal, the path across the field is going to become muddy. We are planning to install a permanent path as soon as possible but, in the



meantime, apologies for any wet shoes!

Traffic speed

Following my request last week, it has been noticeable that drivers are reducing their speed in front of the school. Thank you for your support with this. I have contacted Cornwall Highways to see if we can get some temporary signs installed but have yet to receive a response.

Adventure trail

In support of the children's mental and physical wellbeing we would like to start using the adventure trail on the school field again. However, in order to do this we would either need to clean it after every use (which is not practical) or leave it for 48hrs before another class bubble uses it. We will be allowing one class bubble to have access to the adventure trail for each week, with the weekend providing the 48hr period before another bubble group goes on it. We will also continue with good hand hygiene before and after use.

However, we must ask that parents and carers do not allow their children access after school, otherwise our protective measures will be compromised.

After school childcare

From Monday, I ask that all parents and carers using the after school childcare access the building from the back door, by the kitchen, at pick-up time. You may use the staff carpark too.

Thank you for your continuous support and understanding; it does make this most challenging of situations more tolerable having the support of our school community.

Yours sincerely,

Andrew Hunt.
Headteacher.