



26th February 2021

Tuesday 9th March Opening

We are now able to let everyone know our plans for the opening of the school from **Tuesday 9th March** (Monday 8th March is a non-pupil day).

It is vital for all children to return to school to minimise as far as possible the longer-term impact of the pandemic on children's education, wellbeing and wider development. **Attendance at school is therefore required for all children - education is not optional.**

I can't stress enough how important it is to get into good routines now - getting up and going to bed at a good hour are especially important, so 9th March is not such a shock!

On Tuesday 2nd March, at 19:00, Mrs Cawthera is holding a special drop in for parents/carers who are worried about the thoughts their children might have about coming back. She will be able to offer you practical advice. You can join on this link - <https://www.st-peters-school.org.uk/news/mrs-cawthera-return-to-school-support/>

Alice Sowman, a parent, and 'Relax Kids' practitioner, has also made a really helpful video here (5 mins) which I recommend you watch. https://youtu.be/3_oD8b2y1Vg Thank you Alice for your sage advice.

The wider opening of the school will be exactly the same as it was in September. Rather than repeat all the detailed information, here are the important points you need to know.

1. Essential measures

These are the overriding principles for the safe opening of our school:

- a requirement that people who are ill stay at home
- robust hand and respiratory hygiene
- enhanced cleaning arrangements
- active engagement with NHS Test and Trace
- reduced contacts and maximised distancing between those in school wherever possible and minimise potential for contamination so far as is reasonably practicable

As far as we can, we will keep children in class or year group 'pods'. This means:

- staggered and segregated break and lunch times
- no whole school events or assemblies
- children will use the same toilet and handwashing facilities for the whole day. Pods will have their own designated toilets. We have hired a portable toilet for Chestnut and Rowan class.

2. Your role in keeping everyone safe

Maintaining the integrity of the pods is essential. At the start of each day we would like you to do the following:

- Check your child for symptoms of COVID-19 (<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>)
 - Seek medical advice if they have them **and contact head@sps1.org.uk to let us know.**
- Ensure that your children wash their hands for 20 seconds using water and soap before and after school.



- Talk to them about any worries they might have.

3. What will school be like?

We understand that children will probably be feeling unsettled and we will therefore be making their social and emotional needs our first priority on their return.

Equipment every child needs

Pupils will need to bring:

- their own stationery (pen, pencil, pencil crayons, eraser, pencil sharpener, glue stick) in a named pencil case (wipe clean and labelled with their name). The pencil case needs to be plain (nothing fancy) that is very easy to wipe clean. Once brought in, these items will stay in school.
- a warm coat, water bottle, plus any normal medication. You can use a school bag or rucksack. **Please put names on everything.**

Do not bring anything else. Bikes and scooters will not be allowed on site.

Uniform

Pupils will need to wear **normal school uniform**. There is no requirement this is washed each day. We do have to keep the classrooms well ventilated, so hats, gloves and extra layers are encouraged. Year 6 can wear their hooded jumpers. Sensible plain black shoes are still essential.

Don't forget there is a chance to swap, reuse and keep costs down with this:

<https://www.st-peters-school.org.uk/news/uniform-swap/>

To save space in the classrooms, and reduce contact, your child is **allowed to wear their PE kit to school on the days they have PE**. Your class teacher will let you know which days.

- We will have to do a lot more PE outside, so a tracksuit will be essential.

Many children have issues tying their own laces. If your child can not tie a lace, please buy velcro shoes. We have to reduce the amount of contact between adults and children.

School dinners

Two of our kitchen staff have to continue to shield. Therefore, due to our reduced staffing capacity we can only provide meals for:

- All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2,
- Any child in KS2 in receipt of Free School Meals.

The menu is here: <https://www.st-peters-school.org.uk/parents/menus/>

Reception and Key Stage 1 children will be eating their free school lunch in the hall (in their pods).

- All other children will collect their lunch from the hall and eat in their classrooms.
- If your child has to have a packed lunch, this will be stored in their classroom.

Because we have to reduce the amount of contact between adults and children, please ensure your child can use a knife and fork correctly. This is a good skill to learn.

Swimming

Certain classes will be swimming - **we will let you know which ones.**

Further details will be provided on Monday 1st March.

Before and After School Club



Before and After School Club is allowed to operate and we will need your support in using it please. Details will follow on Monday 1st March, from which date you will be able to book slots on School Comms.

Extracurricular Sport Clubs

Extracurricular Sport Clubs are allowed to operate - but Exeter City Football in the Community cannot restart yet. Details will follow on Monday 1st March.

Play Equipment

The play equipment, including the metal bars on the playground, are completely out of bounds before and after school.

4. What to do at Drop off and Pick up times

Drop off

Times

Please do not arrive before or after these times

- Nursery - 9am (at the Nursery gates, exiting through the main playground).
- 08:45 - Cedar, Sycamore, Cherry and Willow classes.
- 08:55 - Rowan and Chestnut classes.
- 09:05 - Beech, Ash and Oak classes.

If you have more than one child, the pick up and drop off time will always be the earlier one.

DROP OFF points in the morning - any gate

- Large Green gate (parents who arrive from Barn Lane/Greenway Lane direction);
- Small Green gate (parents who arrive from Bedlands Lane/Knowle direction);
- Moor Lane gate (parents who arrive from the town centre direction).

Important points:

- I am asking you all to avoid driving if at all possible. This is extremely important to avoid crowding on the pavements around the school.
- Only one adult is allowed at drop off per family. **Adults must wear face coverings.**
 - Please do not congregate around the school premises after drop-off.
 - Maintain social distancing at all times.
 - There will be markings on pathways to encourage this.
 - Please do not stand directly outside the gate - the markings will start a couple of metres from the gates.
- **Pupils will enter the site without their adult.**
 - For Reception pupils, or those with more need, one parent will be allowed onto the school site. Please maintain social distancing at all times.
- If your child is in year 4, 5 or 6, and they are suitably mature and trained, please encourage them to walk to school on their own.

On entering school, your child will be directed to line up outside their classroom. A member of staff will supervise their handwashing and direct them to their seats.



Pick up - end of day

Times

Please do not arrive before or after these times

- 15:00 - Nursery children (enter Nursery gate and exit via the playground)
- 15:15 - Cedar, Sycamore, Cherry, Willow
- 15:25 - Rowan and Chestnut
- 15:35 - Beech, Oak and Ash
 - We are encouraging Year 5 and 6 children, where appropriate and with parents agreement, to walk home by themselves, or meet parents at a predetermined place nearby.

Entry Points for parents to PICK UP

- There is **only one entry point**, which will be the **Moor Lane gate** (next to the library, opposite the Burial Ground).
- Only one parent will be allowed. **Adults must wear face coverings.**
- Please do not congregate on or around the school premises.
 - There will be markings on pathways to encourage social distancing.
- You will follow the one way system and **wait on a blue dot on the playground.**
- Your child will be sent to meet you.
- You will then leave via the one way system, via the **green gates.**

Please do not come to the office to collect your child.

If your child is in Reception and doing a half day, please wait at the Big Green Gate at 1:15pm.

5. School office or contacting us

Please do not come to the School Office unless a member of staff has asked you to come in.

- The glass screen to the office will remain closed but there will be a box for dropping off items.
- Please make all payments via Schoolcomms.

If you need to contact the school office please do so by telephone (01395 443167) or email

admin@stpeters-budleigh.devon.sch.uk

We are really looking forward to your child(ren) coming back to school. We know there will be challenges, and we are gearing ourselves up for the challenge of recovering from the last twelve months. If you have any concerns or worries, please get in contact.

Stay safe,
Steve and the team