

8<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope that you and your families are well. We have had a very busy and unusual start to the spring term and I would like to thank you all for your patience and understanding as we deal with the latest Covid-19 updates.

On Monday, we shared with you that we would be able to open fully to our children for the start of the spring term and by Monday evening, the Government announcement came of a national lockdown which instructed us all to stay at home to control the virus, protect the NHS and save lives.

As such, from Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January, all primary schools, secondary schools and colleges were instructed to move to remote learning, except for the children of critical workers and vulnerable children.

We have remained open this week for children from these groups and we will continue to do this throughout the lockdown.

### **School opening plans from 11.01.21 onwards**

This week, a critical worker form was sent out to all parents/carers, to register for a place at school from Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January onwards. I am pleased to inform you that current staffing ratios and school organisation mean that we are able to offer a place to all children whose parents/carers have requested a place.

This group of children, combined with our vulnerable children, whilst following the Covid-19 lockdown restrictions and our risk assessments, means that our capacity to accommodate children in school is at maximum. Thank you for your understanding with this.

As mentioned earlier this week, we ask that parents/carers do not use a critical worker place if there is another adult at home, even if you are entitled to. The national lockdown is intended to minimise community transmission. Rates in Cornwall are rising quickly. Please keep your children home if you can do so. However, we fully understand that many of you have no choice and would rather keep your children at home but because of your work you are unable to do so. If this is the case, we ask that you only access the school provision for days when you are working and there is no other provision at home. Please be assured we will look after your children and care for them as best we possibly can.

T: 01736 753135

E: [hello@connordowns.org.uk](mailto:hello@connordowns.org.uk)

W: [www.connordowns.org.uk](http://www.connordowns.org.uk)

Connor Downs Academy, Mutton Hill, Hayle, Cornwall TR27 5DH

A Company Limited by Guarantee. An Exempt Charity

Registered in England & Wales - Company No. 07387540

Registered Office: Aspire Academy Trust, Unit 20, St Austell Business Park, St Austell, Cornwall PL25 4FD

## Pods from Monday 11.01.21

To ensure we adhere strictly to our COVID-19 risk assessment, the pods working in school will remain socially distanced, with staggered, drop off times, collection times, break times and lunchtimes, and will continue to eat lunches in the pods.

Pod	Location	Staff
Year R	Year R setting	Mr Masters and Miss Blewett
Years 1 and 2	KS1 building	Mrs Kitching, Mrs Patterson, Miss Smith, Miss Abel, Miss Pedley.
Year 3	Year 3 classroom	Ms Speight, Mrs Ridge, Mrs Hackett
Year 4	Year 4 classroom	Miss Auster, Miss Brownlee
Year 5	Year 5 classroom	Mr Pascoe, Miss Reed, Ms Scaife
Year 6	Year 6 classroom	Miss Norton, Mrs Smitheram

## Arrival and departure plan: from 11.01.21

<u>Class:</u>	<u>Arrival Time</u>	<u>Where?</u>	<u>Departure Time</u>	<u>Where?</u>
Year R	8.30am	Main green gate then follow socially distanced markings, up the steps and to Year R classroom door.	3.10pm	Main green gate then follow socially distanced markings, up the steps and to Year R classroom door.

T: 01736 753135

E: [hello@connordowns.org.uk](mailto:hello@connordowns.org.uk)

W: [www.connordowns.org.uk](http://www.connordowns.org.uk)

Connor Downs Academy, Mutton Hill, Hayle, Cornwall TR27 5DH

A Company Limited by Guarantee. An Exempt Charity

Registered in England & Wales - Company No. 07387540

Registered Office: Aspire Academy Trust, Unit 20, St Austell Business Park, St Austell, Cornwall PL25 4FD



<b>Years 1 and 2 combined</b>	<b>8.45am</b>	<b>Main green gate then follow the socially distanced markings, up the ramp and through the KS1 main entrance.</b>	<b>3.15pm</b>	<b>Main green gate then follow the socially distance markings, up the ramp and to the KS1 main entrance.</b>
<b>Year 3</b>	<b>8.30am</b>	<b>Up granite steps and into Year 3.</b>	<b>3.15pm</b>	<b>Down granite steps</b>
<b>Year 4</b>	<b>8.35am</b>	<b>Main green gate then follow socially distanced markings, up the steps and through the back door.</b>	<b>3.20pm</b>	<b>Main green gate then follow socially distanced markings and wait on playcourt.</b>
<b>Year 5</b>	<b>8.40am</b>	<b>Main green gate then follow socially distance markings, up steps and through the back door.</b>	<b>3.25pm</b>	<b>Main green gate then follow socially distanced markings and wait on playcourt.</b>
<b>Year 6</b>	<b>8.30am</b>	<b>Through main entrance</b>	<b>3.25pm</b>	<b>Through main entrance</b>

When you are dropping off or collecting children, we ask that parent/carers please wear a face covering whilst on the school site.

Should you wish for your child/children, to wear a mask on the way to/ home from school this is at your discretion. However, as per government guidance, we do not allow the wearing of face covering by pupils within school. If your child is wearing a mask during their journey to and from school, can you please ensure your child has a sealable plastic bag so that their mask can be safely removed and stored during school hours.

T: 01736 753135

E: [hello@connordowns.org.uk](mailto:hello@connordowns.org.uk)

W: [www.connordowns.org.uk](http://www.connordowns.org.uk)

Connor Downs Academy, Mutton Hill, Hayle, Cornwall TR27 5DH

A Company Limited by Guarantee. An Exempt Charity

Registered in England & Wales - Company No. 07387540

Registered Office: Aspire Academy Trust, Unit 20, St Austell Business Park, St Austell, Cornwall PL25 4FD

## Uniform

Our high standards of uniform remain through lockdown and we ask that all children come to school wearing the correct school uniform including black school shoes. Please could I remind children with long hair to tie this back. Thank you.

## PE

In Year R and Years 1 and 2, children will change for PE in their class settings.

For Years 3 - 6, children to come to school, changed in their PE kit for their PE day, as detailed in the table below.

Day	Year
Monday	R
Tuesday	4
Wednesday	3
Thursday	6
Friday	5 and KS1

## School Meals

For children in school, the kitchen staff will endeavour to provide the menu as advertised on Parent Pay. Please continue to make bookings via ParentPay for each day your child/ren requires a meal in school and make payments where required.

Universal FSM are of course still available in school.

For children who are at home and who are entitled to FSM, this does not include Universal FSM, the DfE guidance will be updated with further information shortly and we will communicate this with you as soon as we are able to. Thank you for your understanding with this.

## Attendance

For critical workers whose children are attending school, please inform the class teacher, each week, which days and parts of day, your child/children will be attending so that we can tailor our provision to meet their needs. On the days when these children do not attend school, they will need to access the home learning.

T: 01736 753135

E: [hello@connordowns.org.uk](mailto:hello@connordowns.org.uk)

W: [www.connordowns.org.uk](http://www.connordowns.org.uk)

Connor Downs Academy, Mutton Hill, Hayle, Cornwall TR27 5DH

A Company Limited by Guarantee. An Exempt Charity

Registered in England & Wales - Company No. 07387540

Registered Office: Aspire Academy Trust, Unit 20, St Austell Business Park, St Austell, Cornwall PL25 4FD

## Home Learning

We have moved to online learning for children who are not attending school.

Our aim with the home learning is to replicate, as far as is possible, the English and maths provision which is taking place in school each day. This is to ensure parity of provision for children in school and at home. The focus of home learning during the lockdown is to sustain learning and maintain our high standards of progress and attainment.

For Years R and 1, the home learning platform will be Tapestry. Please continue to access your child's Tapestry account to access the home learning provided by the EYFS and Year 1 teams.

For Years 2 to 6, the home learning platform will be Google Classroom. Log-in information for your child's Google Classroom account has already been shared.

If you experience any difficulties accessing your child or children's Google Classroom account(s), or have any queries regarding the work set, please contact:

[hello@connordowns.org.uk](mailto:hello@connordowns.org.uk)

Your email will be passed to the class teacher for their attention. Staff will respond to concerns raised during the school day.

Please could we kindly ask you to email concerns rather than telephone, as this is a far more efficient means of staff being able to manage concerns promptly. Thank you for your support with this.

## English

### Phonics:

To support children with their learning of Letters and Sounds phonics,

<https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk>

has once again become free (for all) for a limited period of time. This resource is used frequently at Connor Downs Academy to support daily learning.

T: 01736 753135

E: [hello@connordowns.org.uk](mailto:hello@connordowns.org.uk)

W: [www.connordowns.org.uk](http://www.connordowns.org.uk)

Connor Downs Academy, Mutton Hill, Hayle, Cornwall TR27 5DH

A Company Limited by Guarantee. An Exempt Charity

Registered in England & Wales - Company No. 07387540

Registered Office: Aspire Academy Trust, Unit 20, St Austell Business Park, St Austell, Cornwall PL25 4FD

You may log in with the following details:

username: **jan21**

password: **home**

In addition to this, <https://www.teachyourmonstertoread.com>, is a comprehensive learning tool, and is now also free to access (when using a laptop/computer). Please visit the weblink to access this resource.

To access free e-books linked to your child/children's current phonic level, please visit: <https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/reading/free-ebooks/>.

To find out more information about Letters and Sounds, the phonic programme delivered at Connor Downs Academy, please visit: <https://www.letters-and-sounds.com>.

## **Spellings**

Weekly spellings will be uploaded by the class teacher. Please test your child/ren's knowledge of these spellings.

## **Reading**

The expectation continues that children read every day and record their responses in their *Home-School Sharer book*.

Please use the following links to access free books online.

Oxford Owl: <https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/reading/free-ebooks/>

Monkeypen: <https://monkeypen.com/pages/free-childrens-books>

International Children's Library: <http://en.childrenslibrary.org/>

## **English units of work**

The children in school and at home, will follow their units of spring term work and the resources will be shared via the relevant platform for children learning at home to complete.

T: 01736 753135

E: [hello@connordowns.org.uk](mailto:hello@connordowns.org.uk)

W: [www.connordowns.org.uk](http://www.connordowns.org.uk)

Connor Downs Academy, Mutton Hill, Hayle, Cornwall TR27 5DH

A Company Limited by Guarantee. An Exempt Charity

Registered in England & Wales - Company No. 07387540

Registered Office: Aspire Academy Trust, Unit 20, St Austell Business Park, St Austell, Cornwall PL25 4FD

Each week the children will be expected to complete a reading comprehension alongside their writing and grammar skills tasks. This will be provided by the class teacher.

For revision and extension children can be directed to the Oak Academy grammar activities ([All subjects by year group - Oak National Academy \(thenational.academy\)](https://www.thenational.academy)) should you wish to access these.

## **Maths**

The children in school and at home, will continue with their learning journey following the White Rose plans for the spring term for Years 1- 6. Each day, the White Rose videos and relevant resources will be shared online for the children to access.

In addition, staff will set *Sumdog* and *TT Rockstars* challenges which can be accessed via the apps. Please encourage your child/children to participate in these challenges when they are available.

For further challenge and revision, the weekly schedules from the Oak National Academy provide excellent videos and support materials [Oak National Academy Online Classroom \(thenational.academy\)](https://www.thenational.academy) should you wish to access these.

## **Topics**

The children in school and at home, will be set topic work, where appropriate, based on the spring term plans from school.

On occasion, topic work will also be set from the schedule from the [Oak National Academy Online Classroom \(thenational.academy\)](https://www.thenational.academy). All the resources and links will be shared via Tapestry or Google Classroom.

Your child's/children's class teacher will direct you to this topic work.

## **PE**

**#ThisIsPE** is a useful way to deliver activities and games that will entertain, educate and burn off some of that energy during lockdown. The videos are presented by PE teachers and linked to the Primary PE curriculum, so it is a fantastic way for parents to keep children physically active at home!

All videos are available through the link [#ThisIsPE - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/hashtag/thisispe)

T: 01736 753135

E: [hello@connordowns.org.uk](mailto:hello@connordowns.org.uk)

W: [www.connordowns.org.uk](http://www.connordowns.org.uk)

Connor Downs Academy, Mutton Hill, Hayle, Cornwall TR27 5DH

A Company Limited by Guarantee. An Exempt Charity

Registered in England & Wales - Company No. 07387540

Registered Office: Aspire Academy Trust, Unit 20, St Austell Business Park, St Austell, Cornwall PL25 4FD



In addition, Joe Wicks is back! He is available via his YouTube channel on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Please use the link below to follow Joe Wicks.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAxW1XT0iEJo0TYIRfn6rYQ>

## **Homework Grid**

Homework grids, with an emphasis on creative, practical tasks, will be shared via Tapestry or Google Classroom, as well as on the school website. The children will be encouraged to share their work with their class teacher electronically by uploading a picture onto their relevant platform, so that this can be celebrated.

## **Access to Devices**

A questionnaire has been sent this week, (you may have already filled it in), so we may better understand your access to technology.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=rVOWGVbBBUq60whMGjC2GNQzh8GyMTBDIM8-H3wZjiVUN1BPVjg2VjZQSEhRNEszRU1PWjdRMEIGUi4u>

We can then try and help as many families as possible and ensure we provide alternative methods for learning where it is needed. Please contact us if you need some support with this.

Please use [hello@connordowns.org.uk](mailto:hello@connordowns.org.uk) Thank you.

You may find it helpful to know that Google Classroom can be opened via an Xbox or Playstation. Please use the link below to find out more information.

<https://edtechawesomeness.com/2020/03/17/access-google-classroom-with-your-phone-your-xbox-or-your-playstation/>



## Home Learning Expectations

Below is the National statutory guidance which schools must adhere to:

- Set assignments so that pupils have meaningful and ambitious work each day in a number of different subjects
- Set work that is of equivalent length to the core teaching pupils would receive in school, **and as a minimum: primary: 3 hours a day, on average, across the school cohort**; secondary: 4 hours a day, with more for pupils working towards formal qualifications this year
- Provide frequent, clear explanations of new content, delivered by a teacher or through high-quality curriculum resources or videos
- Have systems for checking, at least weekly, whether pupils are engaging with their work, and inform parents immediately where engagement is a concern
- Gauge how well pupils are progressing through the curriculum using questions and other suitable tasks, and provide feedback, at least weekly, using digitally facilitated or whole-class feedback where appropriate
- Enable teachers to adjust the pace or difficulty of what is being taught in response to questions or assessments, including, where necessary, revising material or simplifying explanations to ensure pupils' understanding

## Reporting Positive COVID-19 Test (out of hours)

If you receive a positive COVID-19 test, in the first instance please contact the school office by phone. If the office is closed, please complete the form at the link below to report a positive test.

<http://www.aspireacademytrust.org/coronavirus>

T: 01736 753135

E: [hello@connordowns.org.uk](mailto:hello@connordowns.org.uk)

W: [www.connordowns.org.uk](http://www.connordowns.org.uk)

Connor Downs Academy, Mutton Hill, Hayle, Cornwall TR27 5DH

A Company Limited by Guarantee. An Exempt Charity

Registered in England & Wales - Company No. 07387540

Registered Office: Aspire Academy Trust, Unit 20, St Austell Business Park, St Austell, Cornwall PL25 4FD

I appreciate that this is a lengthy newsletter but I wanted to share with you as much information as I can at this stage. Rest assured, school staff along with myself, will keep you updated with any new information as and when it arises.

In the meantime, I hope that you and your families stay safe during this current lockdown and know that we will as a school, do all that we can to support you and your child/ren.

Stay safe.

Kind regards,



Mrs Eddy  
Head of School