



St Cuthbert Mayne School

Joint Catholic and Church of England 11-18 Comprehensive School Dioceses of Plymouth and Exeter

Headteacher
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Tuesday 9th March 2021

Dear Parent,

We are looking forward to welcoming all students back to school on Thursday 11th March. Over the last few days it has been really great to see so many students in school, and we are excited to see them all again on Thursday.

We have been working hard to ensure the school is ready for a safe return for students following the latest government guidance.

School will continue to operate in a 'Covid-Safe' way until such a time as we can return to our normal operating procedures. To support parents in preparing their children to return to school we wanted to share the answers to some FAQ's we've been receiving:

Frequently Asked Questions

What date does my child return to school?

All students will return to school on Thursday 11th March.

Does my child have to be in school full time?

Yes. School attendance is mandatory for students in all year groups.

What time does my child have to be in school?

Students should not arrive at school before 8:30am. School gates will not open until this time. Students should aim to arrive between 8:35am and 8:45am.

Are there separate entrances for students?

Yes. Students in Years 7, 8 & 9 should enter via Trumlands Road. Students in Years 10 & 11 should enter via West Hill Road and Sixth Form students should enter via the Sixth Form gates. All gates will be shut at 8:50am so students should be onsite by this time.

Is the school running a breakfast club?



International Cross
of Nails Schools



Yes. There will be a limited Breakfast Club provision for students who accessed this in the Autumn Term. Students who accessed our breakfast club provision will be given a pass to allow them early entry to the school site. Please contact Mrs Cox or Mrs Toohey for more information.

Will I be able to come into school with my child?

Unfortunately, parents will not be permitted onsite. We know this will be difficult for some students but we need to keep the number of people on site to a safe number and to ensure the health and safety of all our students and staff.

What time does school finish?

We have introduced a bigger stagger to help avoid congestion at the end of the school day and to enable students to exit safely. School finish times are as follows:

- Year 7 - 14:50
- Year 8 & 9 - 15:00
- Years 10 & 11 - 15:10
- Sixth Form - 15:10

Siblings in different bubbles should agree on a place to meet that is a short distance away from the school gate. We do not want students congregating around the school gates at the end of school.

Does my child have to wear a school uniform?

Yes. All students should return to school in full uniform. Please ensure you pay particular attention to our school uniform policy which is on the website. On days where your child has PE or Dance they will be asked to come into school in their PE/Dance kit. Students not participating in PE will be given other roles to enable them to play a full part in the lesson.

When does the homework club restart?

The afterschool Homework Club in the library will operate daily once again from Monday 15th March for students who would like to complete home-learning tasks and reading activities during this time. This is open to students across Y7 to Y11 from the end of school until 4pm. Please note that there may be a maximum number limit in place to keep students safe in year group bubbles and through social distancing.

Does my child need to wash their hands when they arrive in school?

Yes. Students should wash their hands in designated toilets or use the hand sanitiser pump, which can be found at the entrance to every classroom in the school. On arrival, students should go directly to their Tutor Room.

Year 7 Toilets - Westminster building

Year 8 & 9 Toilets - Exeter Building

Year 10 & 11 Toilets - Plymouth Building

How is the school day being organised?

We have restructured our timetable to reduce the amount of transition times between lessons. This will help reduce the amount of mixing as per government guidance. Students will have two x

120 minute lessons in the morning followed by one x 60 minute lesson in the afternoon. There will be staggered breaks and lunch times.

Will my child be kept in a bubble?

We will be doing everything we can to keep students within bubbles, however it is important that we are honest and say that this cannot be guaranteed. We will be continuing to implement strict social distancing and hygiene measures in line with government guidance

Can my child wear a face covering?

Yes. Students must bring a face mask to school unless they are exempt on medical grounds. Students will be asked to wear a face covering in all indoor communal areas, corridors and during transition times. Students will also be expected to wear a face covering in class as they are unable to maintain a 2m social distance. Students will not be asked to wear face masks on the yards provided they remain 1m away from their friends.

What equipment should my child bring to school?

Students should only bring the equipment they need for learning that day. The minimum requirement is 2X pens, pencil, rubber, ruler, calculator and geometry set. The school will not be lending out any shared equipment so it is important that all students come ready to learn each day.

Where can my child go at break and lunch times?

Each year group will be allocated a designated yard in school. They will not be able to move freely around school as in previous years. If the weather is wet they will be asked to remain in their classroom for lunch.

Will my child get Home learning?

Yes. All students will be issued with a Knowledge Organiser and Exercise book to complete Home Learning. Subject teachers will be checking Home Learning is completed through in-class activities. Students who do not complete Home Learning will be required to attend a Home Learning Support session after school.

Will food be served in school?

Yes. A selection of food will be available for students to purchase in school during break and lunch times.

Will my child be able to top up their Parent pay account in school?

No. The cash machine in the canteen will not be operational because this is part of our infection control measures. Students should ensure there is adequate credit on their account to ensure they can purchase food from school.

My child is in the Sixth Form. Will they be allowed to leave the site during the day?

We have opened a food outlet in the Sixth Form so students can purchase food if they chose not to bring their own food to school. Students will be permitted to leave site when they have finished their lessons for the day.

Can I just pop into school without an appointment?

To ensure the health and safety of all our students and staff, all visitors to school must make an appointment. Please contact Main Reception before coming into school.

Should my child attend school if they feel unwell?

If your child is unwell they should not attend school. You should call the absence line to report your child's absence.

What should I do if my child has symptoms of coronavirus?

Your child should not attend school under any circumstances. You should call the absence line to report your child's absence and seek medical advice via NHS 111. Your family should self-isolate and arrange to be tested as soon as possible. You should notify the school of when you receive the test result.

What would the school do if there is a confirmed case of coronavirus?

Infection rates in Torbay are very low but we should all still remain alert. The school will be guided by the Local Authority and Public Health England. There are a clear set of protocols for school to follow to help manage such an event.

How will the school communicate with parents?

The school communicates with parents via; letter, email, text message, FaceBook, Twitter, Youtube, ClassCharts and Instagram. It is important that we have the most up to date contact details for you should we need to make contact at any time.

Who can my child speak to if they are anxious about returning to school?

You or your child should make contact with their Form Tutor or Head of Year. We have an amazing Pastoral Team who are ready to support all students.

We look forward to welcoming all students back to school on Thursday 11th March.

Yours sincerely,



James Down
Headteacher