

# Pensilva Primary School

School Road, Pensilva, Liskeard, Cornwall PL14 5PG

Telephone 01579 362546

Email [secretary@pensilva.cornwall.sch.uk](mailto:secretary@pensilva.cornwall.sch.uk)

Website: [www.pensilva.cornwall.sch.uk](http://www.pensilva.cornwall.sch.uk)

Headteacher: Mrs Teresa Clinick



Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you are all well and keeping safe in these very difficult times.

Thank you for your understanding at this unprecedented time. I am very aware at how unsettling this must all be for you and your children. It is such a shame their beginning of school life at Pensilva Primary School has been so delayed.

I wrote in my previous email that we hoped we would be able to complete all transitions and settling in sessions in July of this term. We have now been provided with guidance from Cornwall County Council and the Government outlining the risks of having visitors to the school site. Myself and Mrs Clinick have completed a risk assessment and feel, to invite you and your children to school this term would be irresponsible.

We currently have Key worker children, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 children onsite and feel it would be adding a risk to the safety of those children and the school community.

Our other concern is the layout of the Reception class. Following government guidance, we have had to remove all soft furnishings including the book corner, soft toys, role play area and significantly reduce the amount of play activities the children can have access to. I do not feel this is a welcoming, exciting and warm environment for your children to see if they visited now. We sincerely hope by September we will at least be able to set up the classroom so it is an exciting and fun place your children will want to be and feel safe and happy to be left in. I hope you understand our difficult decision.

As I wrote on my previous email, the children will be welcomed for three settling in session in the week commencing 7th September 2020. I am aware lots of parents/carers will be relying on their children being in school full time from this point so they can return to work. If this is the case for you or you feel your child is happy to begin school full time, they may week commencing 14th September. If however, you have concerns that your child has been out of a child care setting for a long time and would like more settling in sessions I am happy to provided a staggered start until the week commencing 21st September 2020. Please note, if after this point your child is still struggling with the adjustment from home to school we will work together to support them until they are settled.



w/c 7 <sup>th</sup> September	Mon 7 <sup>th</sup> – <b>visit with adults</b> starting at 9:30 until 10:30	Wed – <b>visit with adults optional</b> starting at 9:00 – 10:30	Fri – <b>visit with adults optional</b> starting at 9:00 – 10:30
w/c 14 <sup>th</sup> September  children welcome to begin fulltime or have the following visits.	Mon 14 <sup>th</sup> – visit without adults – 9:10 until 10:30	Wed 16 <sup>th</sup> – visit without adults – 9:10 until 10:30	Fri 19 <sup>th</sup> – visit without adults – 9:10 until 10:30
w/c 21 <sup>st</sup> September	All children in school fulltime. (extra settling in sessions provided if needed)		

The settling in sessions will not cover a lunchtime but please be assured I and the Early Years team will go to lunch with the children and show them what they need to do for the first couple of weeks. We will also 'buddy up' the Reception children with a Year 1 child who will look after them at lunchtimes and playtimes.

I am aware some of you are unable to visit the school in September due to work commitments. If this is the case for you please contact me via my email and I will arrange a 1:1 visit for just yourself in the summer term. Social distancing will be adhered to and it will have to be at the end of the school day when the children and staff have gone home.

Enclosed in this pack is your child's handbook about starting school, information about school uniform, ways you can prepare your child for school and a book. Please use the book to add photos of your child and your family, activities they enjoy doing, any pets you may have and any fun things you get up to over the summer break. This will be used as a tool to help us get to know your child in those first sessions and make sure we set up the classroom with activities they enjoy. Also, there are a lot of consent and medical forms to be completed. We have enclosed a stamped addressed envelope for you to return these forms so we can add all the details to our systems. Thank you for your corporation with his.

On Tuesday I will email a virtual tour of the school and a story read by me. I hope this will help your child know who I am and reminded them of the school and our grounds. If there is anything else I can help with or if you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact me either by my email [jthomas@pensilva.cornwall.sch.uk](mailto:jthomas@pensilva.cornwall.sch.uk) or via the school.

I hope you have a wonderful Summer and hope to see you soon in our virtual chat.

Miss Thomas

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