



Letter from Louise Leah

26th February 2021

Dear Parents,

I hope that you are all well and beginning to feel the lift of both the roadmap and the first signs of spring.

We are currently finalising all aspects of the TPPS return to our school day and how we can continue to ensure as much of a 'near normal' return for your children on the 8th March 2021. The TPPS team and I would like to share with you how we intend to open school up, with the continued caveat that all aspects will be constantly reviewed and adapted as is necessary. This will allow us to ensure that we continue to do our best under the restrictions imposed through COVID-19, whilst adhering to the Government guidelines. View the current UK Government guidance for opening schools [here](#) and View the UK Government Covid-19 Statistics and Analysis [here](#).

Ensuring the safety of all pupils and staff continues to be the most important guiding principle within our organisation and our school continues to follow our updated risk assessments and school protocols at this time.

Our on-site health centre will continue to provide staff here with twice weekly testing kits and the operation of both the dedicated 'cold' health centre – for the normal day care for all pupils – and a separate 'hot' health centre to help manage any suspected cases of COVID – 19. This team continues to operate with additional nurses and health care professionals to ensure individual care can be offered to all pupils in need of attention. The school will also continue our commitment to working with the NHS and their 'track and trace' protocols.

We ask that if a pupil or parent develops symptoms of COVID-19 before returning to school that they stay away from the school site and follow the most current government advice around self-isolating and testing. In the case of your child displaying symptoms, please can we ask you to inform the school immediately as you have done so effectively over the past months.

If your child develops symptoms during the school day they will be taken to the health centre and you will be asked to pick them up as soon as is practicable. You will then be asked to obtain a negative test result before returning them back to school.

PPE is available for staff and enhanced cleaning regimes will continue to be implemented throughout the school. The school will also deep clean any room if a positive case was to emerge. Hand sanitiser will remain available at the entrance to every building, in every classroom and we ask that the Pre-Prep children continue to have their own small bottle on them at all times. We will continue to take the temperature of all Pre-Prep & Nursery pupils once every day using the hand held digital thermometers.

We will also endeavour to keep contacts between children and staff to a minimum. Along with keeping the six bubbles separate. For parents of children in the Pre-Prep (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2) wishing to use the extended hours before and after school – the children will continue to go into a mixed bubble during this period.

We would appreciate parents arranging for their child to each have their own pencil cases with coloured pencils and a rubber included in the Pre-Prep.

We will be able to resume the provision of lunch and snacks to all our pupils in our new Dining Hall for the Pre-Prep and Nursery 4 children and within our setting for the Nursery children. Food service will continue to meet the FSA guidelines as well as the guidance for schools and therefore will continue to be plated by the catering staff for the children to take to their lunch places.

The Nursery and Pre-Prep will be open from 07.30 am – 5.30 pm each day. Unfortunately, parents will again be unable to have access to the Pre-Prep or Nursery classrooms. We ask that you continue to drop off at the main entrance for N4, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. For N1, N2, N3 please continue to use the side playground gate. The core school day for the Pre-Prep will be 08.20 – 3.30pm. If you require your child to attend before or after school - please continue to book this in advance with Eleanor.skeen@tauntonschool.co.uk. For parents dropping off more than one child, please can we ask that you access the site through the entrance relating to your youngest child. We are also asking that handovers remain as swift as is possible, with parents continuing to email longer communication to Key staff or Class teachers. Hopefully, this will continue to keep waiting times to a minimum.

We are not requesting that the children wear face coverings in the Nursery or Pre-Prep unless a parent requests this or in the event of a child feeling anxious.

Children are to return to school in their school uniform. However, we appreciate that the school shop has been closed and children may have grown, so please feel free to apply a degree of flexibility to this, including the wearing of summer uniform if this is helpful to you. Could you also continue to send your child in sports kit if they are taking part in sport during that day.

Our focus will of course continue to be on the children's welfare and settling the children back. We anticipate that staff will be operating a limited selection of after school clubs - operating under current guidance. A separate letter will be sent to you over the coming weeks on what clubs are available for each of the year groups, along with booking arrangements for any extended school hours.

We will continue to keep in touch with you and advise of any changes as and when appropriate.

Finally, may I remind parents that the drop off zone outside the front of TPPS is purely for dropping children swiftly and we politely request that at no time do you leave your car unattended in this area.

We are all so looking forward to the 8th March 2021 with all the children back in school again.

With best wishes,

Louise Leah