



Parent/ Carer Email

8 January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you are well.

At the end of this first week of term, I am delighted with how staff and students, along with yourselves, have pulled together to establish a successful start to term. Teachers are already reporting high engagement and some excellent work being achieved by all year groups. As we all move into this lockdown, I'm aware that this places additional demands on everyone. There is a list of useful contacts and wellbeing links on our school website, which you can access via this [link](#).

Can I make you aware of the following:

Online Learning: after restarting our online learning, the staff are keen to make this experience as meaningful as possible for our students. Our committed staff, who were in school teaching for the entirety of last term, where we did not have to close our school once, are now rapidly developing their expertise using virtual learning. I am sure there may be one or two teething issues as we embark on this, and to assist you initially, please find enclosed our troubleshooting guide. Also, should you have any technical difficulties, please contact ICTsupport@redruth.cornwall.sch.uk.

We are aware that it is particularly difficult for some students to acquire squared paper at the moment to help with their maths work. In order to assist them with this, we have placed a supply of maths exercise books in the main reception vestibule for collection. You do not need to phone ahead or indeed enter the building to collect these, to help your son or daughter.

If parents wish to, the students can access Microsoft Teams using an Xbox One or a PlayStation; please find details attached.

Everyone who has identified needing support with either devices or access, has been contacted. Should anyone still require support regarding this, please contact enquiries@redruth.cornwall.sch.uk.

Starting from Monday, all students will receive a tutor phone call which will enable a discussion with your son or daughter and/ or yourself regarding the delivery, completion and feedback of online learning so far. Prior to this, should you have a concern, you can contact the progress lead for your year group:

- Year 7 Mr Bartlett dbartlett@redruth.cornwall.sch.uk
- Year 8 Mr Kennedy KEN@redruth.cornwall.sch.uk
- Year 9 Mr Leah mleah@redruth.cornwall.sch.uk
- Year 10 Mrs Sawalha tsawalha@redruth.cornwall.sch.uk
- Year 11 Mr Bonds cbonds@redruth.cornwall.sch.uk

Free School Meals -the DfE have announced there is an opportunity for schools to apply for temporary mobile data for free school meal pupils who:

- do not have fixed broadband at home
- cannot afford additional data for their devices

In addition, if increasing mobile data isn't a suitable option, there is also the opportunity to apply for 4G wireless routers. Can you please email Miss Bilham, Pastoral Administrator at mbilham@redruth.cornwall.sch.uk if you feel this applies to you.

Vouchers for free school meals will be distributed during next week to the first 2 weeks of term, whilst we await the Government's online voucher system to be up and running.

Critical Worker Students in School – for those students who have started coming into school this week, can I remind you that we now have the booking system for you to use. You can book daily sessions for your son or daughter between Monday – Friday, 8.30am to 3pm up to 5 weeks in advance (from Monday 11 January until Friday 12 February). You can book via our website [link](#) and you may also use this link: <https://redruth.parentseveningsystem.co.uk>. To log in you will need to input your name, your child's name and date of birth. This will take you to a screen which should clearly show you a list of dates and you can then book those on which you wish your child to attend. Please click 'confirm.' You will receive a confirmation email. If you have to amend/add further bookings: log in, click on 'My Bookings', 'Amend Bookings'. **Bookings need to be made by 11 am the day prior to attendance (by Friday 11am for Monday bookings)**. If you have any questions or queries with this please email lmaunder@redruth.cornwall.sch.uk or phone 01209 203700.

As we have previously communicated, the school is now offering lateral flow tests in line with DfE guidance which, with consent, all students receive when in school. This week we have tested all adults and all students, with consent, at least once, and where a student has been in for more than 3 days, they have been tested twice. The lateral flow tests have been identified by the DfE as a means to ensure that regular testing enables schools to remain open and currently this applies to the students who are either vulnerable or are the children of critical workers. In the event of a positive case within school, there is further information which will be sent to those identified as close contacts with reference to self-isolation and testing arrangements.

Finally, I look forward to celebrating with you some of our achievements and successes through learning as the weeks go on. Can I also thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards

Mr C Martin
Headteacher