



Penryn  
College

"Achieving through Challenge"

21 July 2021

Dear Parent/Carer(s)

I am writing to you to confirm the arrangements for next term. We are really looking forward to a fresh start after a bit of a stop-start end to the school year. As ever, we are committed to delivering our usual curriculum and extra-curricular programme next year, and making school life 'normal' - what a lovely thought!

However, as you know, we are making plans in a period of uncertainty, and things can change very quickly. Our aim is to put in place the right structures so we can operate in a 'normal' manner, but also have the flexibility to increase controls and implement an 'Outbreak Management Plan', if that is what is required. I hope the following information helps create a clear picture of next year's plans for you.

### Testing and return to school dates

The government have asked us to lateral flow test each student two times upon their return to school. Therefore, we will implement a plan similar to the one we put in place in March, with a staggered return to school for all students. The following year groups will begin on the following days:

- Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September - Staff Training Day
- Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> September - Year 11
- Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> September - Year 7
- Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> September - Year 8 and 10
- Friday 10<sup>th</sup> September - Year 9

### First day back

Please help us, if possible, by dropping your child to school on their first day back. This will help prevent the spread of COVID-19 and ensure that students are not sat in the TISA (Tented Indoor Sports Arena) waiting to be tested for longer than necessary.

Please see instructions below for Year 8, 9, 10 and 11's first day back:

### ***Year 11 – Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> September***

- Students who travel to school on the bus - please arrive at 8.40am;
- Students who can be dropped by parents/carers - please arrive at 9.00am-9.10am;
- Students who can walk to school - please arrive at 9.20am-9.40am;
- Please walk straight to the TISA upon arrival.



**Headteacher:** Paul Walker

Penryn College, Kernick Road, Penryn, Cornwall TR10 8PZ

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### **Year 10 - Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> September**

- Students who travel to school on the bus - please arrive at 8.40am;
- Students who can be dropped by parents/carers - please arrive at 9.00am-9.10am;
- Students who can walk to school - please arrive at 9.20am-9.40am;
- Please walk straight to the TISA upon arrival.

### **Year 8 - Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> September**

- Students who travel to school on the bus - please arrive at 8.40am (please bring something to occupy yourselves in the TISA whilst you are waiting);
- Students who can be dropped by parents/carers - please arrive at 11.00am;
- Students who can walk to school - please arrive at 11.20am;
- Please walk straight to the TISA upon arrival.

### **Year 9 - Friday 10<sup>th</sup> September**

- Students who travel to school on the bus arrive at 8.40am;
- Students who can be dropped by parents/carers - please arrive at 9.00am-9.10am;
- Students who can walk to school please arrive at 9.20am-9.40am;
- Please walk straight to the TISA upon arrival.

## **Hygiene**

We will continue to promote and support high standards of hygiene for students, including adequate sanitiser on entry and hand washing facilities.

## **School day**

The school day will be set up with the same timings as this year, with split breaks and lunchtimes so that three year groups will have breaks, while the other two year groups are in lessons. Year 8, 9 and 11 pupils will have breaks/lunchtimes at the same time, followed by Year 7 and 10. This year, this structure has provided real advantages to students in terms of spaces and facilities to use.

## **Walking around the building and accessing classes**

We are going to retain our Ring Road, and ask that Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 students use the building for specific entrances. To begin with, we will ask students to continue to queue before lessons, but this may change over the course of the term. We will allow Year 11 to move within the building. Please note that sturdy wet weather coats will be needed for the start of term!

## **Breaks and lunchtimes**

Year 7, 8 and 9 students will use the TISA (Tented Indoor Sports Arena), MUGA (Multi Use Games Area), Hockey AstroTurf, and North Playground.

Year 10 and 11 pupils will use the main canteen for food. Pupils from these year groups will be able to spend time in the downstairs Street, at the front of the school, in Kernewek Hall, and in the Sports Hall.



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All students will be able to use our Synthetic Turf Pitch (STP) to play football and rugby during lunchtimes, provided they wear the correct boots.

As usual, students will be encouraged to spend breaks and lunchtimes outside, where possible. It has been great to see far more students active at breaks and lunchtimes.

***Please note that we intend to make the following developments for next year:***

- Food will be served in the TISA for Year 7, 8 and 9 students. We will have greater serving capacity and the full range of meals will be served;
- Additional outside eating spaces with seagull protection systems;
- Indoor seating to create a 'proper' dining space during lunchtimes;
- Additional play equipment available on the Hockey Astro;
- Breaktime opening of the MUGA;
- The STP will be open to all students who wish to play football or rugby, but they will need to bring their boots!

It is worth noting that because of the split breaks, Year 7 will spend breaks and lunchtimes as one year group, but Year 8 and 9 will spend breaks and lunchtimes together and be able to mix.

### **Classroom layout**

In classrooms, we will retain our current layout for the first half of term, and will continue to ask students to wipe down their tables at the end of each lesson. As the picture becomes clearer, we will be able to adjust the layout of rooms. However, we will continue to deliver the specialist curriculum in specialist classrooms.

### **Tutor groups and 'Academies'**

As you know, we have made the decision to keep our Year 8, 9 and 10 tutor groups in year groups but within our House system. This allows us to pilot having the same staff team both tutoring and taking Personal Study lessons, which we believe will provide more support to students so they can plan and complete their work. As you know, we have already started to inform students of their new tutor groups.

In Year 11, students will start their 'Academies Programme' on Wednesday afternoons, and the lead teacher for this will also be their tutor. This will allow students to choose a specific area of study that they are interested in, along with a member of staff who has the same interest. We have a number of Academies, including Sport, Creative Arts, Medics, and Vocational, to name a few. We are very excited to see how this new programme develops. It is worth noting that Year 11 students will still remain in Houses under the guidance of their new tutor and current Head of House.

### **Lockers**

As you know, we have not allowed lockers to be used this year and, **initially**, this will remain the case for next year. However, we will be allocating lockers to next year's Year 7 and 8 students from mid-September. If your child is entering Year 8 next year and you would like them to be allocated a locker, there will be an option to pay a £10 deposit via ParentPay. We will send further details about this in September.



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### Extra-curricular programme and school trips

We are also looking forward to a full extra-curricular programme and, we hope, the reintroduction of our school trips. Don't forget that students can get involved in lots of exciting activities over the summer as part of our EdVenture Summer Holiday Activities programme! You can access the huge list of activities by clicking [here](#).

### Thank you

Finally, I would like to thank you, as parents/carers, for everything you have done to support the school during a really challenging year. You have been extremely positive, kind and understanding, and we have all really appreciated that. I am crossing everything that I can so we can have a wonderful, full, and 'proper' school year next year.

If you have any questions, or you would like to talk anything over, don't hesitate to e-mail me via [pwalker@penryn-college.cornwall.sch.uk](mailto:pwalker@penryn-college.cornwall.sch.uk) or via the school number: 01326 372379.

Have a lovely summer and take care.

Paul Walker  
Headteacher



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