

Executive Headteacher: Mrs J Woodhouse BSc(Hons)  
Head of School: Mrs S Crawley BSc (Hons)

Dear Parents/ Carers

As our schools re-open, I hope your child is settling well into their Year 6 class and happy to be back in school. No doubt your family are already considering their eventual transition to secondary school and, like us, hoping that their education and support will not be further disrupted over the coming school year.

As a family of secondary schools (St Ives, Cape Cornwall and Hayle Academy) within the Truro and Penwith Academy Trust, our plans for our annual Open Days and Evenings would usually be well underway and we would usually be looking forward to welcoming hundreds of Year 6 students and their families into our schools. With much regret, we cannot see a way in which we can hold these events safely at the current time. Our priority throughout recent months has been to protect the health of our school and local communities by minimising the risk of transmission. An Open Day or Evening which brought together large numbers of adults and children, from a wide variety of different schools, would be impossible for us to arrange safely and would breach Government guidance for schools.

We are therefore exploring a number of different options to support students and families through the process of moving on to secondary school. Included in these options are online messages from our school leaders, key staff and students to share information about our schools' ethos and the high quality of provision and support available for students. Our online resources are available via our websites in our sections on admissions so please do take a look at what our schools have on offer.

Whilst Open Days and Evenings are a lot of fun and provide an opportunity for us to showcase our fantastic education, families will get a far better idea of our schools if a visit can be arranged during a working day. All our schools will be offering an extended programme of school tours for families with students in Year 6 who are considering joining us from next September. Tours will be available from 21<sup>st</sup> September and will continue daily throughout October. To keep visiting families safe and minimise any risk of infection during the tour we will provide hand sanitiser on arrival and ensure social distancing is in place. Tours will be held for individual families and a maximum of 2 adults and 2 children can be accommodated on the tour. We also ask that wherever possible visiting families wear a mask during the tour. Our school tours will provide an opportunity to see our schools 'in action' as our students get on with the important business of learning, working with our dedicated staff team. Families will be able to speak with school leaders and we warmly welcome questions about the opportunities, care, and education available to children in our thriving school communities. To book a school tour, please contact the school's Receptionist who will be happy to assist with the arrangements.

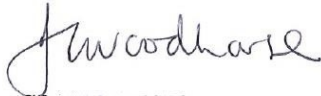
Further details about each school's transition programme will be provided by the individual Heads of School and will be shared with parents via childrens' primary schools. In addition, key members of our staff teams will be in contact with primary schools to arrange online or face to face (if possible) opportunities to speak with children and answer any questions they may have about moving on to secondary school.

In previous years, in common with other local secondary schools we have felt 'obliged' to spend significant amounts of our precious school funding on advertising our Open Days and Evenings. This year, with the support of our Governors, we will not be spending money intended for the education of students on advertising. We feel that now, more than ever, every penny should be spent within our school on supporting our students and investing in their care, wellbeing and education. We will therefore not be promoting Hayle Academy, St Ives School or Cape Cornwall in the local press, on buses, at bus stops, in magazines or on the radio and the thousands of pounds we will save will be re-directed into the education of our students.

We will ensure that our websites are kept fully updated, that we have online 'virtual' admission information available and that our staff team are available to prospective families to answer any questions and provide any support we can around the move from primary to secondary school. We know this is a very important stage in children's education and staff will be delighted to host a socially distanced tour, or to discuss transition at length via the phone.

On behalf of our staff teams, I would like to thank our families and communities for all the wonderful support that we have received over recent months. We very much look forward to meeting new students and parents over coming weeks and months and to supporting students' transition into our schools over the course of this academic year.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Woodhouse', written in a cursive style.

Mrs Jan Woodhouse,  
Executive Headteacher Cape Cornwall School, St Ives School and Hayle Academy