



**COCKERMOUTH
AFTER SCHOOL
SCHEME**

1990 - 2020
30
YEARS

30 September 2020

Dear Parents/carers,

Well, that wasn't what we had in mind for the CASS 30th anniversary year! The Coronavirus pandemic has affected everyone, some more than others and, for our part, we were shutdown from the end of March through to the start of the summer school holidays.

Through some creative planning and colossal effort by our team of staff, led by Manager Julie, the summer holiday scheme was a success. We couldn't take the usual volume of children due to the required restrictions on bubble/group sizes, but we demonstrated we could safely deliver the usual fun CASS experience in a COVID-secure way.

The New Normal? – We hope not!

September brought the start of the new school term and the realisation that the demand for our service has dropped significantly. We know this is mainly due to many parents and carers still working from home, a situation that will likely be with us for some time yet. What we would ask is to please consider when we can provide you with flexible childcare to support you to continue to work, whatever form that takes nowadays. Sustaining the CASS service during term time enables us to continue to provide our holiday scheme so we will be keeping numbers under close review over the coming weeks and months.

Fee Freeze

We had planned a small inflationary increase in fees to be implemented in April 2020 to cover increased costs, but the committee have agreed that we will hold the fees at their current rates until further notice.

Volunteer Management Committee and AGM

As you know CASS as a registered, not for profit charity is managed by a volunteer committee of trustees. This year, at our November AGM, a number of our current trustees need to stand down from their positions having served the maximum 3-year term allowed by our constitution. This means we need a number of new volunteers to join the management committee (currently meeting virtually). Whatever skills you can bring, we would truly value your input to help steer CASS on through our next chapter. If you think you can help, or just to find out more, please contact Julie Poole or Rob Griffiths via CASS.

Take care and stay safe.

Yours,

Rob Griffiths

Chair - CASS Management Committee

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