

Cornerstone Church of England (VA) Primary School

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*Building our Community with Love, Forgiveness and Hope
Growing an Exceptional Learning Community*

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New Trim Trail and Climbing Pyramid equipment

Dear Parents,

We are very pleased that new pieces of Trim Trail equipment and a Climbing Rope Pyramid have been installed ready for the start of this half-term. Many thanks again to the **PTA** and those who have supported events over the past year, to help raise the money and source a grant from the National Lottery to fund this equipment. This was an impressive total of **£17,000**.

On the first day back, each class was given lesson time to play on and explore the new equipment, whilst also having clear rules about its use shared with them. They will also be given time at lunchtimes and playtimes to enjoy the new equipment. However on the Monday 6th and Tuesday 7th, we ask that no children (*or indeed adults*) use the equipment before or after school. The aim of this is to allow the initial excitement and use to be controlled, to ensure children understand how to use the equipment safely.

We have taken external expert advice to assess the risks and plan safe use of the new equipment. Below are some points from our Risk Assessment, which may be adapted as we monitor the use of the equipment. I appreciate this may seem overly formal to some parents; however it is in line with health and safety procedures required by schools. I am sure you will agree with me that we all want the children to fully enjoy the equipment, and to do so safely.

Children are **forbidden to stand on the top of the tallest pieces of equipment**, and are forbidden to jump from anywhere but the bottom of the Climbing Pyramid. **Pre-school and Year R children are only permitted to use the Original Trim Trail equipment.**

Year 1 children are not permitted to use the **Monkey Bars**, and can only climb as high as the **green ribbons** on the **Rope Wall Climber** and **Climbing Pyramid**.

If children who attend the school or younger siblings use the equipment **before or after the school**, their **parents must be either positioned on the field or at the very edge of the playground adjacent to the Trim Trail / Climbing Pyramid** and make sure they are able to see their child(ren) at all times.

Before 8.45am and after 3.15pm children who use the Trim Trail / Climbing Pyramid are the sole responsibility of the parent/carer who is bringing them to school or taking them home.

Signs will be placed on the three railings and on the adjacent fence:

"Only children aged 11 and under can use this equipment. They must be supervised by a responsible adult at all times."

"This is a happy school where pupils achieve well in terms of their personal, as well as academic development and are growing up as responsible caring young people." Ofsted 2015

The following maximum numbers must be observed at all times of use:

Hand and feet climbing wall: 4. 3 levels bars: 3. Tyres on rope: 4. Balance beam: 3

Rock Wall climber: 4. Rope Wall climber: 3. Monkey Bars: 2. Climbing Pyramid: 10

Total for all equipment: 33.

If the equipment should not be used, **railings will be placed across each section of equipment.** Signs will be attached stating: **“The Trim Trail is closed. Do not use this equipment.”**

Thank you for your support in making sure this new equipment is an enjoyable success for all the children.

Yours sincerely,



Tim Clarke
Headteacher