

18 May 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

RE: Re-opening of school

I am sure you will have been noting with interest the latest updates regarding the reopening of schools. I understand that this may be a confusing and worrying time for you. The leadership team and governors are currently undertaking a risk assessment to work out the safest means of enabling some children to return to school. In doing this, we are considering the advice of the Government, the Local Authority and the different trade unions.

You will understand that we want to do all we can to support you and your children. This includes working towards getting children back to school. However, there are many health and safety checks that need to be undertaken to ensure this can happen in the safest way possible.

We commenced this work last week and we will be continuing this week. We will keep you informed as we progress.

In our plan, we are ensuring that groups of pupils are no larger than 15, or smaller where we can. Groups will operate in isolation of other groups within the school premises. Staff will be allocated to a particular group and will not be in contact with other groups, other than the leadership team. All adults will be required to adhere to strict social distancing rules with other adults. Children will be encouraged to do likewise where age and maturity permits. Drop off and collection of children will be staggered to support social distancing. There will be additional cleaning and hygiene procedures in place. We will be doing all we possibly can to keep everyone as safe as possible. However, just as in all other areas of our lives at the moment, we are unable to guarantee that no person will contract COVID-19 as a result of being at school.

You will have seen that the Government want schools to open initially for Nursery, Reception, Year 1, Year 6 pupils, in addition to children of key workers and vulnerable children. As part of our risk assessment, we need to ask parents of their intentions when the school reopens for their children. We will be contacting parents of the above groups today and tomorrow to ask it you will be sending your child to school when it reopens for them.

It is important that you note there are some children who should not attend school at this time as follows:

- Clinically extremely vulnerable/shielded children should remain at home.
- Clinically vulnerable children should follow the advice of their doctor.

- For children who live with someone <u>clinically extremely vulnerable/shielded</u> it is unlikely that all pupils will be able to understand and comply with the stringent social distancing necessary – therefore it may be more advisable for these children to remain at home.
- Children who are, or who live with someone who is, symptomatic or a confirmed case of COVID-19 cannot return to school until self-isolation is over, or a negative test is received. <u>Self isolation guidance</u>

Thank you for your continued support and co-operation. We send our best wishes to you all.

Yours sincerely,

Kathy Bannon Headteacher