

Friday 15th May 2020

Dear Parents & Carers,

I am writing to you to give you a further update on where we are after the Prime Minister's announcement on May 10th about his hopes of re-opening schools from 1st June. Before that, I would like to thank you again for your overwhelming support through this time, but most of all, for doing such an incredible job at home. I know that having young children at home during these times are a lot more challenging and stressful than what it already is, and I want to recognise that the hard work and resilience you have shown is truly commendable.

Since the Prime Minister's announcement, we have been working towards a plan to re-open school in a way which puts the health and safety of our children and staff first. This, in turn, will then enable us to keep families as safe as possible too. In order for us to do this, you will understand that school cannot operate as they did before lockdown. We hope though, that over time, and with the improving situation regarding COVID-19, that all schools will be in a safe position to return to the structures and routines that we are more familiar, in the not too distant future.

I would like to keep you as up-to-date as possible and reassure you of our priority of ensuring our school is safe for the return of our children and staff. Just some of our considerations are as follows:

- No more than 10 children in a classroom at a time to ensure 2 metre distancing.
- Small 'bubbles' of children that do not mix with other 'bubbles' of children to limit contact.
- An allocated Teacher/TA who will, as much as possible, work only with that 'bubble' throughout the time back in school, to limit the amount of contact with people as possible.
- Specific entry and exit points for classes/'bubbles' to maintain social distancing and limit contact.
- Rigorous hygiene measures including anti-bacterial sprays and soap, paper towels and hand sanitiser in all areas, professional cleans twice a day, individual sprays and cloths for each member of staff for cleaning as and when throughout the day, PPE and much more.
- Staggered start and finishing times to ensure social distancing.
- Clothing worn by children and staff to be suitable for school but also easily washed so that what we wear is clean every day to minimise the risk of potentially spreading the virus.
- The curriculum that will be taught will be well-considered; including promoting mental health and well-being for our children.

This week, there has been revisions to government guidance and new government guidance published on a daily basis, of which we will adhere to. Because of these changing guidelines though, we have been unable to finalise our plans. The government is holding another meeting today with education unions, which will no doubt impact upon their guidance, so we will await its outcome and move forwards as necessary and appropriate thereafter.

I hope that my letter has given you some valuable information and made you feel assured that our absolute priority is the health, safety and well-being of our children and staff. We will be writing to parents and carers again as soon as we have more information. I thank you for your patience.

Yours sincerely,



Miss Cao

Deputy Headteacher