



Dear Parents and Carers,

As I am sure you are aware the government has announced that schools might begin to re-open to YR, Y1 and Y6 from the 1st June. This has obviously given us a great deal to think about.

In planning for any potential extension to the Essential Childcare that we are currently offering we must be able to balance the risk to children, their families and our staff. There has been some initial guidance from the government on how to start implementing this, but it is still very sketchy about how this might work in practice.

In the primary school context, with very young children, Social Distancing measures of the type recommended to the general public are simply not possible. We therefore need to think carefully about how we can ensure the safety of all children and staff.

It is already clear that any offer we can make will look very different from how it looked before the lock-down started. Many of the toys and resources that we use are not safe due to infection risk (such as dressing up, playdough, sand and water) and staff will need to spend a great deal of their time organising and sanitising areas within the rooms. How all of this will work is what we will be planning over the next few weeks.

Please be assured that we are not attempting to shy away from any responsibility that we have to our families, who we know are under tremendous pressure too. It is to be reasonable and measured in how we begin to get our school back up and running to ensure that everyone is safe. In the initial weeks there will inevitably need to be an element of prioritising who comes into school and even how long the sessions we offer last for. In a scenario of so many competing priorities, we have to put safety first and try to balance any risk. We recognise that this will be a difficult decision for families and note that the government has stated that families will not currently be penalised at present if they decided not to send their child to school.

As we begin to make our plans, we need to know whether you will want your child or children to return to School during June. We will be sending out a quick electronic survey at the beginning of next week in order to get a better picture of how many children will need a place. We would really welcome your participation in this survey.

Being honest, given the timescales and the amount of preparation needed, it is probable that any return to school will need to be staged and it will certainly not be a case of all children returning on the 1st June.



So please, read the government guidance for families

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/reopening-schools-and-other-educational-settings-from-1-june>

We will continue to share our plans with you when they are clearer, and we have completed the Risk Assessments that are required before we extend our current position.

Thank you for understanding and your continued support.

Matt Sugden

Fiona Beetles

Chair of Governors

Headteacher