



Monday 8th June 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope this letter finds you and your loved ones safe and well. As the last half term of the year begins, I would like to thank you again for your ongoing support.

I am writing to update you with regard to the planned partial re-opening of the school. Our aim is to see our staff and children back in school as soon as we can however, reopening has proven complicated and challenging

A thorough health and safety review has been carried out which has taken account of both the number of pupils who wish to return and the number of teachers who are currently able to return school. It has been concluded that at present, we are currently able to offer a return to school provision for pupils in Year 6 only.

Please be assured that this difficult decision has been taken following a thorough review of our particular circumstances with our commitment to ensuring that our return to school is as safe as possible for all members of our school community during these challenging of times.

I am sure that many parents/carers of children in other year groups may be keen for their children to return to school however we are currently unable to confirm when this may happen, primarily due to the availability of staff. We will only be in a position to open the school to more children when we can accommodate their needs safely and effectively.

A great deal of work has taken place to prepare the school for children and staff when they return and every step possible has been taken to ensure the safety of both pupil and staff. The following steps have been taken to prepare for a staggered re-opening:

- Staffing health and wellbeing has been surveyed (we can only open if enough staff are able to work in school rather than from home.)
- Key worker families and parents/carers of children who have an EHCP have been contacted.
- Parents' views have been surveyed (we have contacted parents/carers of Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 pupils asking them to indicate to us whether they intend to send their children into school once we reopen).
- Thorough risk assessments have been carried out in line with guidance from the Government, the Department for Education, the local authority and the various unions.

Our current proposal is to offer places to pupils from Year 6 whose parents have indicated a desired return to school this month. More precise details of arrangements will be provided directly to Year 6 parents shortly and the information they will receive will include the following:

- Which group 'bubble' their child has been allocated to.
- Which days their child can come to school, i.e. which days their bubble is in school
- Which teachers/members of support staff have been allocated to their child's bubble
- Which gate / entrance they should use
- What time their child should be dropped off/ collected
- What the arrangements will be for the drop off and collection times (where they should stand etc)
- What their child needs to bring with them
- What their child should wear
- What the lunchtime arrangements will be for their child/their bubble
- What we will do if a child has a problem whilst at school
- What will happen if a child / a member of staff falls ill.
- How their child's bubble will work and how we plan to maintain social distancing.
- Information for the children about what they will be learning and how they will be taught.
- A home school agreement and guidance document which explains the school's procedures and expectations.

I am sure that you will want to join me in thanking our dedicated team of staff for all their hard work in adapting to so many new expectations over this period from March. We have learnt how to use a new online platform and responded very positively and supportively to new ways of working. We are planning lessons for home learning, responding to children's work, speaking to families, undertaking on-line training to keep up to date, whilst at the same time supporting own families and loved ones.

Over the next few weeks, class teachers will continue to write end of year reports which will be issued to you electronically during the last week of term. The last few weeks of the school year are going to be extremely busy! Discussions with secondary school colleagues will continue and there will be further meetings with professionals from outside agencies, the local authority and other key stakeholders.

For the remainder of this term, your child's class teacher will contact you less frequently unless there is a specific request for weekly contact. Senior Leaders will continue to keep in touch with vulnerable families and support members of staff who usually work with children on a 1:1 basis will also be in regular communication with key families.

We will continue to provide online learning activities for the children via Google Classroom so please monitor your children's use of the internet do not allow them access anything that is unsuitable or inappropriate. We are happy to assist with this any concern you may have about online safety and will be sharing new resources and guidance on this topic via our website over the next few days.

Before the end of the school year, regardless of whether your child returns to school or not you will receive the following:

- A Parent/Carer Teacher consultation - an opportunity to speak with your child's class teacher about their progress this year (This will be a virtual meeting or phone call).

- An end of year summary report to highlight achievements and guidance on how to prepare your child/children for September.
- Information about next year. Your child's new teacher, support member of staff and allocated classroom.

If you have been in the vicinity of the school grounds recently, you will have noticed that lots of changes have taken place!

I will be updating you all on the position regarding our new school building on Friday and look forward to sharing some very positive news with you about our expected move.

In the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact the school if you have any questions.

Take care and keep safe.

Yours sincerely,

N Rezai

Natasha Rezai

Headteacher