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Headteacher: Mr. I. Johnson (Hons) NPQH

### Parent/Carer Update 15.5.2020

To all Parents/Carers,

I hope you are all ok and thank you for your patience regarding our response to the most recent government announcements. As you have seen in the news, following Boris Johnson's address on Sunday, schools are being instructed to open on 1<sup>st</sup> June for FS2 (Reception), Y1 and Y6 children. Of course, this reopening is dependent on a number of factors but until we hear otherwise we are planning for this outcome.

### So, what are we doing in preparation for the reopening?

1. Firstly, we are in the process of establishing how many teaching staff are eligible to return to work on 1<sup>st</sup> June. This is happening as we speak and thus allowing us to plan which classrooms we need and how many children will be in each class. We are planning to have class sizes no larger than 10.

***\*Despite these small class sizes, and whilst we feel we have good measures in place for reducing the risk of spreading the virus, social distancing (as outlined by the government) in a school setting is very difficult to achieve; particularly with younger children.***

2. Alongside this, we are preparing a detailed action plan around a phased reopening. This is almost complete and will be shared with you early next week. This has been completed with the Local Authority, the Senior Leadership Team/Site Management Team, the Governing Board and our contracted Health and Safety Officers. It will hopefully provide you with enough answers to make an informed decision.
3. Creating a timetable which will allow for:
  - Limited class sizes (no greater than 10)
  - Staggered breaktimes and zoned areas
  - Staggered pick up and drop off times for parents/carers
  - Increased cleaning
  - A clear protocol in case staff or children show symptoms of Covid-19
4. Developing a curriculum which will allow children to ease their way back in to school; with due focus given to mental wellbeing. Please find attached an document regarding our 'Recovery Curriculum'

### What days will we be open (subject to change)?

To begin with, in order to assist with social distancing and potential working patterns for parents/carers, we will be open as follows:

- Group A (approx. 90 children – half the FS2 children + half the Y1 children + half the Y6 children) will attend on Monday and Tuesday (exact start and end times to follow)
- Group B (approx. 90 children - half the FS2 children + half the Y1 children + half the Y6 children) will attend on Thursday and Friday (exact start and end times to follow)
- School will be closed on Wednesday for a further deep clean.

Regarding Group A and Group B, we want your child(ren) to be happy and comfortable upon their return so we will try to make sure that your child is with friends and surrounded by as much familiarity as possible.

### **What happens next?**

Prior to us opening we will need to know how many children will be attending from FS2, Y1 and Y6. As such, please click on the link below and complete the short questionnaire (but only if your child(ren) are in FS2, Y1 or Y6). Included in this questionnaire are a range of questions for you and your child (where applicable) to complete - plus a simple yes/no section about whether you will be sending your child back to school. It is vitally important that you complete this questionnaire by no later than 4pm Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May as it will allow us to prepare in the most effective way:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/backtoschoolmps>

I appreciate this is a difficult decision to make so if you feel you need any further information or a chat with myself then please give me a call. At this point, I want to reassure you that we will not be putting any pressure on anyone to send their child(ren) to school and the guidance clearly states that there will be no fines for non-attendance. This is entirely your decision and we will respect it either way.

### **What if my child is not in FS2 (Reception, Y1 or Y6)?**

If your child is not in FS2 (Reception), Y1 or Y6 then they will continue to be provided with home learning and everything, for now, will stay as it is. Please keep sending in your work, we love seeing it!

### **What if my child is currently in FS2 (Reception), Y1 or Y6 and attending school as they are a child of a key worker or classed as vulnerable? Will they be going into a classroom from 1<sup>st</sup> June?**

Yes. If your child is currently in FS2 (Reception), Y1 or Y6 and attending school as they are a child of a key worker or classed as vulnerable then they will transfer to the classroom from 1<sup>st</sup> June.

### **Will school continue to offer childcare for children of key workers and those who are classed as vulnerable?**

Yes, this service will continue now and beyond 1<sup>st</sup> June – as long as it is needed basically!

And lastly, can I once again say thank you for your continued support and understanding throughout all of this. It has not been without its challenges but I do believe, in lots of different ways, it has made our school community even stronger and something we should all be very proud of.

Best wishes and take care,

Mr I. Johnson

### **Appendix:**

The link below has been written specifically for Parents/Carers regarding the phased reopening on 1<sup>st</sup> June. Please do take the time to read it as it will also help to inform your decision:

[https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/reopening-schools-and-other-educational-settings-from-1-june?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=govdelivery](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/reopening-schools-and-other-educational-settings-from-1-june?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery)