



18th May 2020

Dear parents and carers,

Further to my letter on Wednesday 13th May, I want to update you on our planning for a possible return to school for more pupils in the coming weeks. You will have seen and heard a great deal about this in the media over the past week but in the broadest sense the Government have asked schools to meet two objectives:

1. To expand the number of pupils in school in a controlled manner, starting with priority groups.
2. To minimise the opportunity for contact between different groups of children and adults.

Clearly, meeting these two contrasting requirements is a challenge that we are approaching with care and consideration.

As we look to increase the number of children in school, our priority, as always, is the safety of everyone in our community. There are a number of controls and actions we can take to reduce or mitigate risk and [work safely](#). Key points are that when more children return they will:

- Be in smaller groups or classes of **no more than 15**.
- As far as possible, **stay together** throughout their time in school and **not mix** with other groups.
- As far as possible, **work with the same adults** each day.

There will also be enhanced hygiene and cleaning routines and changes to the school day and the way we use the building. Further details about exactly how we will operate will be sent to families as we develop our plans further this week.

It is important to understand that a return at this time will not be 'business as usual' in school and the children will need to adjust to different spaces and different

methods, however we are also mindful that we do not want the children to be anxious or worried about being in school. We will aim to enjoy being together and focus on the very important benefits of being back in school: to enable children to build relationships with their teachers and each other; to help them develop behaviours for learning; to help them cover key points of learning in readiness for next year and to develop a consistency in routine for children and their families.

We are being asked to prioritise places for the children of **critical workers**, ([full list here](#)) and children in **Reception, Year 1** and **Year 6**. As part of our planning process **we need your input below to help us identify the places we can offer and what this provision will look like.**

We would be very grateful if you could spend some time with your child/children this week explaining that because of the measures in place, it is not possible for everyone to return at once. Children that are not yet able to come back are no less important, special or loved. We appreciate that in some families with children in different year groups this could involve some returning and some not. For now, your response will help us plan exactly what we are able to offer.

[Please follow this link](#) and complete the answer boxes. We need your return by 2:00pm Wednesday 20th May.

I fully appreciate that for many this is a difficult decision. Each family circumstance is unique, so please take the course of action which works best for you. We will do our utmost to support you over the coming weeks in every way we can.

Yours sincerely,



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