



St Mary's Church of England School

Infants:

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Middle:

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Juniors:

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Thursday 21st May 2020

Dear Parents and carers,

I am writing to you following the Government's announcement of the intention to partially re-open schools from the 1st June for Early Years, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 pupils.

Due to the guidelines in place, this will not be a full return for these year groups, though it is an opportunity for us to add value to the curriculum being accessed remotely. I would also like to reassure parents of children in other year groups that we are fully aware of the need to maintain the quality of remote teaching and learning for your sons and daughters.

Part of the Government's announcement was that they would like all Primary age pupils to have the opportunity to experience being back at school before the summer holiday.

Anticipating how this could work in practice, we plan to build on our remote learning offer by introducing a learning platform that will help with the continued motivation of the children. This puts us in the best place to respond to further Government guidance on how to re-open school more widely. We expect to implement this platform in early June and will be sending out full details after half term.

Our arrangements for Key Workers will continue and I will be in touch with the parents of that group separately. Those who have children in the year groups listed above, will receive a separate letter tomorrow, outlining the details for drop-off and collection, as well as any other information we feel will help, as you plan for a return.

The most important consideration of pupils returning to school is ensuring their safety and reducing the risk of transmission as much as possible. In that regard, we have carried out a comprehensive risk assessment. I have used this and the questions that many of you asked in your survey responses to put together an information sheet detailing how the children and staff at school will be kept safe. You can also see the full information we are working to on the DfE website [here](#).

I would like to reiterate the Government's message about social distancing of Primary pupils being unrealistic; our main intention will be to ensure that pupils in the different year groups being welcomed back do not mix unnecessarily.

There is no obligation for children to return to school at this point and the school will still be providing the opportunity for children to work remotely in the second half of term.

Finally, it is important to be aware that the Government is intending to meet with its Scientific Advisory Group on 28th May to make a final decision on whether a return to school is indeed advisable from the 1st June. Should it not be possible, we will be continuing with remote learning, as communicated in last Friday's newsletter.



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The staff and I very much look forward to welcoming pupils back to school when we are told we can and I'm sure you are all looking forward to taking a step closer to a return to some sort of normality. Thank you for your on-going support.

Yours sincerely,

Angela Abrahams

Headteacher

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