



12th June 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Following the announcement earlier this week by government, that not all primary school pupils will be able to return to the classroom before the end of summer, I felt it would be useful to explain our position going forward.

It has been lovely to welcome back more children over the last couple of weeks and life in school is certainly now more alive with children's voices. The staff have done an incredible job to prepare the school and the children have been well prepared for their return, which I thank you for. The atmosphere around school is lovely and continues to be more positive the more children we have in.

It is very sad for us that the school does not have the capacity for more children, but it is not practically possible with the social distancing restrictions and lack of learning spaces left around school. We hope that the government give us more guidance, now that they have adjusted their expectations, as we move towards the last few weeks of the term.

It is challenging that certain classes are able to come back, whilst others are still unable to access life back in school. There is also the uncertainty of the present offer needing to change at any moment, with children and staff possibly having to self-isolate or groups having to close.

I understand that this time with children at home has been precious, but can also imagine that everyone's experience will be different: having your children at home may have an immense impact on your own work and family life. We would very much like to support our remote learners to continue to engage with home learning and know that as time goes on, this can become more difficult.

As the advice and guidance is updated, I hope to write again with the possibility of inviting more year groups to school. Currently, there is no suggestion of a reduction in social distancing from government or ways of operating in school, so we would have to maintain smaller working groups in school and staggered start and end times as well as breaks and lunch. We remain committed to doing the right thing for our children and we continue to explore ways of supporting further. I very much wish you all well and encourage you to contact us if we can help in anyway.

Transition into Reception

Yesterday, County also put out a statement regarding transition:

The Local Authority are very aware that first, infant and primary schools are most anxious to continue their excellent transition work with Early Years settings, parents, carers and families and many are making plans for later this term. However, although government guidance does not make specific reference to induction to primary school, and only refers to transition to the secondary sector, schools are strongly advised not to invite children, who are registered for a place in September, in to school for face-to-face meetings or activities, but to consider alternative models and approaches to induction.

I have added this here to support our families who have pre-school children joining us for Reception in September. Please look out for further correspondence coming soon.

Kindest regards

Tracey Hart
Headteacher

Love learning, work together, achieve and shine.

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