



15 May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to let you know what we are doing to prepare for the possible phased return of children to school. I want to make it absolutely clear that our primary concern in any planning we do is the safety of the whole school community. It may well not be possible to welcome back all pupils in the way the prime minister described. We are working out the best approach for this school while following the guidance the government has issued.

As you will be aware the government hopes that Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 will return to school from June 1 at the earliest if it is considered safe to do so. This applies to primary schools. **For infant schools the government guidance states that we should focus on nursery (if applicable) and Reception.**

As an infant school **we do not have the classrooms** we would need to accommodate the children of both Reception and Year 1 in the groups of no more than 15 required to **allow social distancing and reduce the risk of infection.**

**Therefore at the present time we are planning for Reception children to return when it is judged safe for them to do so, in groups of no more than fifteen. We will continue to be open to the children of key workers and vulnerable children.** If you are a key worker whose child has been at home but you now think you will need your child to come to school please telephone the office.

In order to reduce contact and therefore reduce the risk of infection the children will be in the same smaller group every day with a teacher (who will not necessarily be their teacher), in the same classroom (which will not necessarily be their classroom). We are also planning to stagger the start and finish times to minimise contact and to control the access and exits from the school and the school site.

I appreciate that this is not an ideal way to reintroduce children to school and I understand that many of you will be concerned. You will not be penalised if you choose not to send your child to school.

We miss the children very much and would love to have them back in school but I reiterate that our primary concern is safety - the safety of the children and the staff in school and the safety of all our families. **We are planning carefully but we do not know when or if these plans will be implemented. We will keep you informed.**

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Caroline Proctor'.

Caroline Proctor  
Headteacher