



Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2020

### **Re-opening plans for September 2020**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for your patience whilst we have been working on the plan for reopening the school in the autumn term to our children. We have been carefully working through the guidance from the DfE, consulting with our staff and Governing body and also taking time to undertake our own risk assessments.

The purpose of the attached document is to give you a clearer understanding of the approaches and measures that will be in place at our school when we return after the summer break.

Please can I draw your attention to the plan for Friday afternoon. As a school leader I am legally obliged to provide the staff with planning, preparation and assessment time (known as PPA). Under normal circumstances this is when the children would benefit from PE or Spanish lessons with Mrs Jones or Miss Crosse.

However, the guidance states that safety measures should be set up with the aim of minimising contacts and mixing between people as it reduces transmission of coronavirus (COVID-19). The overarching principle we have to apply is to reduce the number of contacts between children and staff which we are achieving by keeping groups separate (in 'bubbles') and through maintaining distance between individuals. As you can see this has posed a problem with the PPA provision as we cannot deliver this without mixing groups/staff contacts. After weighing up the potential childcare needs against the safety of our staff/children we have decided to close the school earlier on a Friday afternoon (with staggered collections running between 1pm and 1.45pm). This will allow for several things to happen, the school can be 'deep cleaned', staff can undertake their PPA time and we maintain the children's safety by avoiding the mixing of 'bubble' groups.

I realise that this may pose issues for working parents and for that I sincerely apologise, this has been a difficult decision particularly as we do not yet know what the situation will be with the infection rate (R-rate) in September but it is one that keeps the children and staff safety at its heart. This is a temporary measure and will be kept under constant review as the issues of Covid resolve over time.

Please take time to familiarise yourself with the information booklet attached and contact the school via email if you have any questions. We are very much looking forward to welcoming everyone back on 3<sup>rd</sup> September and I thank you once again for your continued support.

I hope you all stay safe and have a wonderful summer break.

Yours Sincerely,

Mrs Jodie Flynn  
Headteacher