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Date: 29th May 2020

Re: Potential phased reopening of schools

Dear Parents and Carers ,

I trust you are continuing to keep well at this challenging time; we miss you and our thoughts are with you all.

I am writing as an initial response to the Government's proposal that primary schools might open from 1/6/2020 for children in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6.

Please let me be open and honest about the absolute challenge that we face in considering how and whether opening is the right thing to do at this time. We are currently producing plans and assessing the risk of opening and, when the risk assessments have been made and certain conditions met for our particular situation, we will make a decision as to how best to move forward.

I would like to make it very clear that any attempt at physical distancing in a school environment poses many difficulties and these are all being considered. The government's advice relating to 15 per class will need to be thought through with our environment in mind; this will be at the same time as considering the age and needs of the children and their age appropriate learning behaviours.

Whilst we are all committed to the education of the children, we obviously need to ascertain whether it will be possible to gradually increase the number of pupils attending whilst continuing to place the physical and mental health and safety of pupils, staff and families at the heart of our actions.

As I hope you can appreciate, these decisions require deep consideration and understanding and cannot be made in a hurry. Regardless of the Government's proposed date, our phased return will only happen when we have collated and evaluated the information and carried out our risk assessments accordingly. Thank you for bearing with us; I will be in touch again next week.

Yours sincerely,

*SANorris*

S.A.Norris  
(Headteacher)

