

Email Update – 15th May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am trying to keep you updated so you know what we are being told rather than just hearing it from the news. However, I am aware new guidance keeps being released and what I say today may well be different next week. So please, I am just updating you with what we know currently, this may not be what actually happens on 1st June.

Last night's Government information says schools should not offer a phased return e.g. part-time for the selected classes - Nursery, Reception, Yr 1 and Yr 6 from 1st June but rather that we only invite children back full time. They have said if we cannot accommodate all the selected classes in the smaller group sizes or with enough staff then schools must only have some of the selected classes in.

The government has set a priority order that we have to ask classes to return in. Currently the priority order we have to offer for the return to school is Key worker and vulnerable children, then Nursery, then Reception, then Year 1 and finally Year 6. This would mean for some schools there is no way year 6 can return on 1st June.

Obviously many school leaders including our Trust are meeting with the Local Authority, Regional Schools Commissioner and Government officials to try and find a suitable solution.

I recognise this is very disheartening for many of us but we may find the guidance changes again next week and we may hear something different.

I will keep you updated.

I am also aware lots of parents are understandably worrying about whether or not to send their child back if they are given the option this term. There are lots of people asking other's opinions on social media and some criticism of what people are choosing to do.

Please do not worry about what other families decide.

Every family is different and what is right for one may not be right for another.

Please know that from a school point of view:

If you send your child back to school because you want to, that's ok

If you send your child back to school because you work, that's ok

If you keep your child at home because you want to, that's ok.

Please know that whatever you decide it's ok.

We are not here to judge you, we are here to support you.

Take care and have a good weekend

Best wishes

Nicky