

Water Primary School

Happiness, Health & Opportunity

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Dear Parent/Guardian

Good afternoon, please can I take this opportunity to thank you all for your continued support and encouragement during our partial closure. I am extremely proud to be headteacher of this wonderful school, the pupils, parents and staff have been nothing short of incredible during this very difficult time.

I am writing this afternoon to inform you of the government's intention to allow certain pupils a phased return after the May half term. From June 1st Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 children can return to school, why these specific year groups? I am unsure but can only guess that it is something to do with the importance of early reading and the transition to high school. Unfortunately what you know and I know is the same at the moment and I am waiting for further clarification and guidance which I hoped would have arrived before writing this letter. As soon as I have official communication I will pass this information to you.

Today I sent a detailed action to plan to all our staff on the phased reopening for those year groups. This contained information on the items we must think about and have in place before we can consider reopening. The safety of all our pupils, parents and staff is absolutely paramount. I will share this document with you over the next few days. Considerations included class sizes, class space, staffing and adhering to social distancing measures. We also need to think about the mental health and wellbeing of all pupils and the transition from being at home to the school routine. All considerations have and will be in the very best interests of our pupils.

At this time it is extremely important for us all to remain calm and measured and react with caution with any further guidance we receive from the Government and any future planning will be meticulous and be informed on advice from unions, research and medical opinion. We miss our children and we miss our school but any return must be safe.

Our policy regarding critical workers and vulnerable will remain the same until we have further guidance and information. The message of stay at home is still incredibly important despite the alteration to 'Stay Alert' therefore please only use our 'Childcare Services' if there is no other option. It is an incredibly difficult time, home schooling, working from



home and the financial implications for families and our support, help and advice will not cease. Please do get in touch if you need support. Thank you for your patience and I hope to bring you further news in the coming days. I know many will have a number of questions and I will do my best to answer these for you.

Please take care.

Mr Willan
Headteacher

