



Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Reopening of schools to more children

Dear Families,

As promised, I am writing to you, with further information about the proposed reopening of schools in England in June. The government has said that this is still conditional on meeting the 5 key tests they have set, which includes the rate of infection being reduced. Schools, however, have been asked to start planning to reopen, ahead of the confirmation that these tests have been met.

Staff, governors and I are currently working on a comprehensive health and safety plan, to apply the national guidance (COVID19: Implementing Protective Measures in Education & Childcare Settings). Only if governors and I are confident that we can apply all of the safety measures, will we reopen school to more children after half term.

What we do know, is that whenever we get confirmation about the 5 key tests, infant schools are being asked to start re-opening to **reception** children in **small groups** first.

Our initial thoughts are that the earliest we could invite reception children into school in groups of **no more than 15** on set days, is **the week beginning Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June**.

At the beginning of June, staff will contact each reception family to explain the plans and procedures.

Later in the month we would look at inviting Sapling children into nursery in small groups. Again, families would be contacted to explain the plans and procedures.

In terms of year 1 and 2, we will contact you at a later date, once more guidance and advice has been released.

The government has announced that families who choose not to bring their child to school during this period, will not be fined.

I will be honest in saying that I cannot predict how this will work and as a result there will be regular reviews and possible changes to what we can offer over the next 2 months.

In the meantime, school is still closed to all but vulnerable children and the children of key workers.

I understand that there is still a lot of uncertainty and anxiety and that this information may pose more questions than answers. Please be assured that the safety of children, staff and adults comes first. I will update you further once I have received further information and guidance.

Kind regards

Mrs Sarah Mardell

Head Teacher