

Good morning everyone

As you will be aware, the Government has said that they are hoping children in Year R and Year 1 could return to school on June 1st, as long as the data around the Corona Virus continues to go in the right direction. As a school we are beginning the process of planning how this might work for us. We understand that those of you with children in Year 2 will be feeling 'left out' of this provision - we too are disappointed that our Year 2 children won't be returning in the first instance, although we still hope to see them before the end of the summer. Provision for key workers and home learning for those not in school will continue.

Our first job will be to find out which of our children are likely to return and which staff will be able to be in school to work with them.

Today I would like to provide you with some things to think about, as a family, before asking you to make the decision about whether you will send your child back to school. At the start of next week we will be asking you to let us know whether you would like your child to return, and if so, we will also be asking a few questions to help us support your child with the transition back. Then we can make more definite plans.

There are two links below which will support you with this decision. I do suggest you look at them, but here are the main things you will need to consider:

- Children will not be expected to remain 2 metres apart at all times, but measures, such as a one way system around school, hand washing routines, not mixing with other groups of children, and a rigorous cleaning routine for classrooms, will be put in place.
- Class sizes will be kept to 15, and, as we would like children to return to their own classrooms in the first instance, this may require a 'day on day off' timetable.
- If a child or a member of staff shows symptoms the whole group may be asked to self-isolate for 14 days.
- There is likely to be a drop off rota to ensure that we keep the mixing of adults bringing children to school to a minimum
- Teachers will not be wearing PPE unless a child becomes unwell with symptoms and needs to be isolated

No doubt you will have lots of questions - you are not alone! However, hopefully this will help you in starting to make what is a very big decision. I know a lot of our staff have worries and anxieties about returning to school, which is quite natural. But I think it is important that we in the education sector continue to step up and do what we can to support the country on its slow recovery from this difficult time.

These are the articles you may wish to read:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/reopening-schools-and-other-educational-settings-from-1-june>

<https://schoolweek.co.uk/key-findings-how-the-dfe-thinks-schools-can-safely-reopen/>

Please feel free to call me in school if you would like to chat to me personally. Further information will be sent to you at the start of next week.

Sending lots of love

Jacky