



# HEATH FIELDS PRIMARY SCHOOL

*Inspire Achieve Celebrate*

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Headteacher Mr Mark Whyman

20<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Dear parents,

I hope you and your family are well and staying safe. I am writing to you with information about the return to school for children in reception, year 1 and year 6. Thank you to those parents that have contacted the school informing us of whether or not their child will be returning in June. We now understand the number of children who will be returning and we have been able to plan based on these numbers. It is a challenge for the school to ensure social distancing and rearrange class rooms so that children are two metres apart. With the current numbers returning this is manageable, but it doesn't allow for an increase, at this point in time, as we can't physically operate safely with the size of the class rooms and accommodation available.

The Government guidance is that schools start to reopen **from** the 1<sup>st</sup> of June. Teaching staff, governors and I have discussed planning for a safe return. In order to ensure everything is safe, social distancing is in place, risk assessments have been carried out, class rooms have been arranged, cleaning products and PPE ordered have been delivered etc, we **will not be opening for a return to school**, for pupils in reception, year 1 and year 6 until **Monday 8<sup>th</sup> of June**. The school will still be open for vulnerable pupils and pupils of key workers from Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June. Home school learning for all children will still be updated, but please be mindful that teaching staff will be teaching children in school as well as updating home learning. From 8<sup>th</sup> June teaching staff may not always be able to respond promptly to any queries or requests.

The group of children attending school classed as key workers is beginning to grow. Over the past 8 weeks we have had between 5 and 11 pupils attending each day. Following government guidelines class sizes should be a maximum of 15. A class of this size is difficult for us to accommodate safely following social distancing guidelines. We appreciate more people will be returning to work from June 1<sup>st</sup>, but the school will not be able to safely accommodate any increase in numbers of this group. At this point in time we cannot guarantee spaces for any new requests. We don't have the space.

Before the 8<sup>th</sup> June, for children returning to school, further information such as class grouping, start and finish times, social distancing measures etc. will be sent out. In the meantime to help you start preparing please take note of the following information:

- Children will not be expected to wear uniform. Please ensure they wear comfortable casual clothes and foot wear suitable for PE, outdoor and physical activity.



- Children will be asked to bring their own pencil case into school with their own pens, pencils etc. This will stay in school and only be used by your child. We will provide this, if it cannot be provided from home.
- The kitchen will be open and school meals will be available as normal. Children will still be able to bring in sandwiches from home.
- Children will only need to bring a coat and a bag (containing water bottle, sun cream and sandwich box) into school. Nothing else.
- Following government guidelines children should only move from one setting to another i.e. home to school. To avoid spreading the virus children will be in one group throughout the day in school and not mixing with others. We will not be able to accept children who have been mixing with another group outside of school and more likely to spread the virus. For example, children who mix with another group at a before or after school club, will not be able to attend. We will only allow children into school dropped off by their parent.

Further information will be sent out week commencing 1<sup>st</sup> June.

Regards,

Mark Whyman

