

13 May 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Re: possible reopening of school to more pupils in June

We know you will have seen in the news that schools may reopen on 1 June 2020 to reception, year 1 and year 6 pupils, if the government thinks that it is safe at that time.

However, for special schools the guidance from the government is different. The extract from the guidance is below.

'Special schools, special post-16 institutions and hospital schools will work towards a phased return of more children and young people without a focus on specific year groups'.

(Coronavirus (COVID-19): implementing protective measures in education and childcare settings
Published 11 May 2020)

It is a very unsettling time for us all, but rest assured that we are going to be doing everything we can to make sure we are ready for additional pupils to attend school if it is safe to do so.

However, we are also not going to be pressuring any families to send their child to school, as you know your children and personal situation best.

Below is a link to a very short electronic survey. You will also have received this link on a text. Please ensure that you complete this survey by Friday 15 May 2020. Thank you in advance for your responses that will help shape our future provision and communications. Should you wish to discuss any concerns you might have please contact us on 01474 365485 and a member of the senior leadership team will return your call as soon as they are able.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=fgjpbV5FBUEzhwjMM8LyoAV7d8fELP5EkmtXUkS-CzltURDBOSUc4VTU2TjBYODhBUkJCRESgWEQ1Ni4u>

Pupil and staff safety will always be of paramount importance and will guide all of our decisions.

We will also consider the availability of school staff, their Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) requirements and their wellbeing needs in relation to their self-isolation and shielding status.

Please be assured that we will continue to follow all government guidance and put in place the measures that are required to keep people as safe as possible. However, there is no doubt that whatever measures are put in place we cannot eliminate the risk that the virus could spread in school due to the fact that we work in close proximity to each other. Therefore, we will only allow more pupils to attend as part of a gradual transition.

In the meantime, the school is still open only for our most vulnerable pupils and the children of critical key workers. The pupils who are now in school will be able to continue to attend after 1 June 2020. We know some employers will be encouraging you to return to work, but we are not in a position at the moment to extend places to other pupils until 1 June 2020 at the earliest.

We would like to thank you for your continuous support in helping your child to continue to learn at home. We will need to keep going with this approach for a while yet, so please continue to access the resources on the school's website and stay in touch with us about how your child is doing.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Yours faithfully



Abigail Birch
Executive Headteacher



Maddy Jones
Head of School





RFS Excellence Silver in Forestry 2014



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