ST. LUKE'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND

PRIMARY SCHOOL



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Dear Parents / Carers

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Good afternoon and I hope you and your families are all well.

Further to my letter sent on Monday 11 May, the Prime Minister has said that primary schools MAY gradually reopen to some pupils in Reception, Y1 and Y6 from 01 June 2020 at the earliest if:

- The virus stays on a downward slope
- The 'R' rate remains below 1

With this in mind, we are beginning to look at the enormous task of planning and preparing for this to take place. We have received a lot of guidance from the DfE and we are consulting widely with the LA and other schools to try to ensure that we are as prepared as we can be for this to happen. The government has asked us to prioritise the youngest children first, so therefore once we receive confirmation that schools will return we will consider starting with Reception.

However, I need to be honest with you and lay out a few points for you to consider so that you can make an informed decision as to whether or not you send your child in to school.

- Only Reception, Y1 & Y6 pupils will be allowed back to school. Siblings and other year groups will not be allowed in school for the time being.
- Not all year groups eligible will be in all of the time. Pupils will be in on a part time basis.
- Children may not necessarily be with their friends, as we will have to divide them into very small groups within which they will have to stay for the foreseeable future. There will me no social mixing and the children of 'key workers' will be in a separate group to allow continuity of provision for them.
- Children will not necessarily be with their normal teacher or teaching assistant.
- Start and finish times will be staggered between 08:45am and 3:15pm to minimise parental contact. This means that some chikdren will not be at school for a full day.
- The learning environment will be drastically different to what some children are used to.
- We will practise, where possible, two meter social distancing, but you must understand that this will be a herculean task and not always possible given the age of the children.
- Children will spend their whole day in the same classroom with short outdoor breaks.

School will therefore be far from 'Normal'.

ACTION:

I now need parents of children in Reception, Y1 and Y6 to indicate to their class teacher via dojo if you intend to send your child to school when we reopen. This will give us an idea of the numbers we are planning for.

Please note that if you choose not to send your child in because you believe it is not in their best interest there will be no repercussions. Home school provision will continue to be provided by teachers until we receive further guidance. You will not be fined for non-attendance and we will support you if you decide to keep your child at home.

We are living through very strange and un-tested times at the moment and I truly wish it was different and we were all together again. I will be in touch before the end of this month to let you know the detail of our plans, provisionally for June. In the meantime thank you for all your messages of support. Look after yourselves and we will hopefully see you when it is safe to do so.

Yours sincerely,

S Hardaker

Mr S Hardaker Headteacher