

9th June 2020

Dear Families

I hope you're all well and staying safe.

As you will be aware, the government have asked that we begin to welcome back children in key transition years – nursery, reception, year 1 and year 6, as well as continuing to care for critical worker and vulnerable children.

Calderdale Council, having considered the latest evidence available, is now able to support a cautious extension of the opening of schools from 15th June.

In line with this guidance we are busy with our strategy to safely open school to more pupils. I have been conducting risk assessments, meeting with our Health & Safety advisor and talking with staff and governors to finalise the plan.

It goes without saying that our number one priority is the health and safety of our school family. Any actions and decisions regarding opening school will be driven by making sure that it is safe to do so.

We need to ensure that we have sufficient staff, space and resources to implement the following hierarchy of protective measures;

- Avoiding contact with anyone with symptoms
- Frequent hand cleaning and good respiratory hygiene practices
- Regular cleaning of settings
- Minimising contact and mixing

Pupils will need to be taught in small consistent groups ('bubbles') and they will need enough space to maintain 2m social distancing. The size of our classrooms dictates that we are able to safely accommodate pupils in the following group sizes, up to a maximum number of 67 pupils in total;

- Critical worker and Vulnerable pupils = 1 group of 15 and additional groups of 8
- Nursery pupils = groups of 6
- Reception, Y1 and Y6 = groups of 8

In facilitating the return of these groups of children they will be prioritised in this order (as per Government guidance);

1. Critical worker and vulnerable pupils
2. Nursery
3. Reception
4. Year 1
5. Year 6



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Therefore I will now be asking parents and carers of those priority groups if they wish their child to attend, so that we can allocate places. I will also be providing you with more detailed information regarding the logistics of coming back to school.

I understand that some parents/carers may decide to exercise their own judgement and will continue to keep their children at home. Parents/carers who decide not to send their children to school will not be penalised.

As I said, further details will follow but I wanted to get this information to you as a matter of urgency. Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you need anything at this stage.

Thank you for your continued support and understanding in this matter.

Yours sincerely

Lisa Hoyle
Headteacher