



12th May 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

I trust that you are safe and well.

Yesterday evening, we received the official guidance from the government in relation to preparing for wider school openings from 1st June 2020.

From the week commencing the 1st of June at the earliest, the government have announced that they will be asking all primary schools to welcome back children in Nursery, Reception, year one and year six, alongside priority groups (vulnerable children and those whose parents or carers are key workers). The government have also stated that it is their ambition for the remainder of the children in primary schools to return to school one month before the end of the Summer term. It is important to note here that all of the above will only take place providing that the five key tests set out by the government and the reduction in infection rate will justify these changes. The government will advise schools accordingly depending on the situation at these times.

As a Trust we are in the process of reviewing these recommendations alongside the LA to determine the next steps we will take in order to prepare to move forward with this plan. Please be assured that the safety of our children, families and staff will be at the forefront of any decisions we make, and any plans that we put into place. 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 to receive these specified year groups, providing it is safe for our schools to reopen in the coming weeks.

In the meantime, we will continue to provide places for children in all of our Trust schools who are in the vulnerable category and those whose parents/carers are key workers. This will include the period of the Whitsun break. We know that some employers will be encouraging you to return to work, but we are not in a position right now to extend places to other children until we receive further government guidance.

I am sure that this recent announcement will have prompted many questions for you all in relation to your individual circumstances, therefore if you have not already seen the guidance on the link below, I am sure you will find this a useful read:

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers?utm_source=cc9c1c49-4c5e-4748-8698-06ec4a877f73&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=daily

I would like to add that we will not be pressuring you to send your children to school, since you know your children and personal situation best. We will as always endeavor to keep you updated with information regarding our preparations for making sure our schools are as safe as possible, so that you are able to make an informed decision.

In the meantime, we would like to thank you for your continuous support in helping your child to learn from home. We will need to keep going with this for a while yet, so please do continue to do what you can and stay in touch with us about how your child is getting on.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A. Cheema".

Amarjit Cheema OBE
Chief Executive Officer