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21 May, 2020

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St. Anne's C.E. Primary School

Dear Parents/ Carers.

I hope that this letter finds you and your families safe and well.

As you know, since school closures on March 20th, St. Anne's has continued to be open to children of key workers and vulnerable children and provided Home Learning for the remainder of our pupils. Following the Government announcement on 10th May, our next challenge is to make suitable and reasonable adjustments to welcome back Nursery and Reception, Year 1 and year 6 children, with the possible return of all year groups before the end of term. We are working on plans to manage this, taking account of Government, Local Authority and Union advice. We are further supported by a risk assessment which puts the health and safety of pupils and staff first and ensures our school mitigates, to the best of its ability, the risks associated with a phased return. Rest assured, we will only re-open when we have all 'measures' in place and thereafter it will be a slow and gradual approach to ensure the utmost precautions are being taken for every member of our school community.

All measures are compliant with Public Health England, Local Authority and Government advice.

- *Children will come to school and leave at staggered times. School will end earlier than the norm to accommodate the additional time required for daily deep cleaning. Only one parent should bring their child to school and social distancing must be observed whilst waiting to enter. Children will be collected at the gate by their teacher.*
- *It is recommended that children wear a clean set of clothes daily to avoid contamination. If children wear sensible footwear i.e. trainers all the time then it means that we can do physical activities whenever possible, without the need for them to change into PE kit.*
- *There will be no 'hot' school meals available. If your child is in receipt of free school meals or normally has a school lunch then a school packed lunch will be provided at the usual cost. Children can bring a packed lunch from home. This must be in a plastic container which can be wiped down on arrival as well as their water bottle.*
- *Children will only need to bring a packed lunch and a water bottle – no need for anything else.*
- *Children will be asked to wash their hands on arrival at school and this will be done at regular intervals throughout the day. Handwashing and toilet times will be supervised.*
- *Social distancing will be in place for all aspects of the school day, even during playtimes and lunchtimes which will be staggered. There will be no assemblies or collective gatherings for any activities.*
- *Children will be in small groups which we will call 'pods' –approximately 10 per group (depending on size of classroom)*
- *Children will not mix groups/'pods' for any activity and will be with the same teacher. This will not necessarily be their class teacher and children will not necessarily be in their 'normal' classroom. We may not be able to put your child with all of their friends.*
- *Children will have their own seat and desk, but will not be seated beside another pupil. There will be limited access to resources. All desks, seating and resources will be regularly wiped down and cleaned.*

- *Teachers will also be maintaining social distancing which is unfortunately very different to the way we normally conduct learning in school. Children will engage in the tasks that have been set for home learning with the teacher 'teaching' the content. There will also be activities on emotional and mental well-being and transition.*

Thank you for returning the poll to provide us with an early indication of numbers of pupils requiring a place in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6. This has helped us greatly with our forward planning. However, with the constant change in the medical/scientific evidence and data, we are not asking parents to make a decision at this point in time and the government has stated that parents will not be penalised for their child's non-attendance. Telephone calls will be made to parents to ascertain their wishes the week prior to the phased return for their child's class. Please note that children will need to attend for the full week, with no option to choose days, due to contamination risk. If, over time, parents change their mind and wish for their child to attend, they can do so by letting school know the week prior to return.

The plan for our phased re-opening is as follows:

Week beginning 25th May

Tuesday, Wednesday: deep clean of all areas
 Thursday, Friday: disinfection of all areas conducted by a specialist provider.
 We are advised that school needs to be closed during this process.

Week beginning 1st June

1st June Cluster PD day: classroom environments to be prepared for re-opening and staff instruction
 2nd June onwards: continued opening for key worker children throughout
 Telephone contact made with Nursery and Reception class parents regarding sending their child back to school. Parents of those children requiring a place will receive guidance bespoke to the year group.

Week beginning 8th June

Phased return of Nursery and Reception children
 Telephone contact made with Year 1 parents regarding sending their child back to school. Parents of those children requiring a place will receive guidance bespoke to the year group.

Week beginning 15th June

Phased return of Year 1 children
 Telephone contact made with Year 6 parents regarding sending their child back to school. Parents of those children requiring a place will receive guidance bespoke to the year group.

Week beginning 22nd June

Phased return of Year 6 children.

Much thought and preparation is required to enable this process safely and some of the stages are beyond our control, for example ensuring that the delivery of hygiene products arrives in time for opening. Therefore, all dates are provisional; indeed the 'stagger' may be accelerated, if we feel confident that we are able to accommodate the next cohort safely. At a time of uncertainty in the regional and national educational climate, we simply wanted to outline our intentions on the reopening of our school, for which the finer details will be communicated to you, as cohorts return after the break.

Next half term, teachers will continue to plan home learning tasks for all year groups, even those returning. To provide an additional layer of support for Summer 2, EYFS children and Years 1-6 will receive a bundle of workbooks by post over the holiday. It would be appreciated if you would wait until your child's class teacher makes contact with you via the usual text, before embarking upon any of the activities in the books. This will ensure that you can enjoy a well-earned break from your home learning! After half term, please be aware that some teachers will be teaching in school as well as taking responsibility for the learning of the pupils in their class, so response times may not be as swift. We will, however, endeavour to provide consistency and continuity, by keeping the learning of those pupils at home in line with those who are at school.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff team for their resilience and commitment over the past weeks. I would also like to thank you for your continued support in these extraordinary times and look forward to seeing you, as we gradually return to a 'new normality' over the months to come. Once this is fully regained, the St. Anne's team will ensure that all our children receive not only the education they need, but also the level of love, care and emotional support they deserve.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. L. Sixsmith (Head Teacher)

Miss S. Overfield (Chair of Governors)

