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5 June, 2020

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St. Anne's C.E. Primary School

Dear Parent/ Carer,

I hope that this letter finds you and your families well and you are continuing to remain in good health and spirits.

You will remember that my last letter dated Wednesday 27th May relayed the Local Authority directive issued on that day to advise all County Durham primary schools to delay any plans for a wider reopening of Nursery, Reception and Year 6 children to the 15th June. One of the reasons was to allow schools time to take a measured, cautious approach towards drawing up a comprehensive Risk Assessment and preparing the school internal and outdoor environment accordingly, with the safety of pupils, staff and our wider community as paramount.

In light of the above, whilst still favouring a gradual reopening, we are now able to revise and accelerate our start dates, so that the many changes are securely embedded before all four year groups, together with children of key worker and vulnerable families, are welcomed back to the school. We will remain open for this essential provision, as usual, throughout this period. It would be appreciated if parents who require it confirm which days they need for the following week by the preceding Thursday, so that the necessary arrangements can be made.

Monday 15th June- start date for **Nursery and Reception** children. Parents of these children will be contacted on the 8th June to confirm their attendance or otherwise.

Thursday 18th June- start date for **Year 1** children. Parents of these children will be contacted on the 8th June to confirm their attendance or otherwise.

Wednesday 24th June- start date for **Year 6** pupils. Parents of these pupils will be contacted on the 15th June to confirm their attendance or otherwise.

May we remind you that the Government has said that no parent will be penalised for their child's non-attendance. However, if your child is going to return, we are advised that they will need to start on the allocated date for their cohort and will need to attend for the full week, with no option to choose days; each of these advisories is due to contamination risk.

In consultation with the C of E Diocese and the Local Authority, from Monday 15th June we will introduce a staggered start and finish to the day; this is to minimise congestion on entry and exit. Also, on a Friday, we will end the school week in the early part of the afternoon; this is to accommodate the daily and weekly deep cleaning regime required to comply with rigorous Health and Safety guidelines.

To add the necessary detail to the above arrangements and support any further questions, I have compiled a **Safe Return Guidance for Parents** document, which is attached. I would encourage all parents to read this, as even if you do not intend to return your child at this stage, it will provide you with an insight into the new 'normal' school life. However, should you understandably have additional concerns which this document does not address, please don't hesitate to contact me either by email or by telephone at any time. Thank you for your continued support as we navigate our way through this period of transition and as we look forward to more settled times to come.

Mrs. L. Sixsmith (Head Teacher)

