



DOVE BANK PRIMARY SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mrs E Ford

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25th May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Re: Reopening of school to more pupils in June

Last week we sent you a letter on behalf of Staffordshire County Council, which advised Parents it trusted individual schools to make their own decisions, in regard to welcoming more children back to school.

The Government have stipulated schools should focus on the following year groups returning – Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6. To support Governors with this task the Government has issued a range of guidance to schools and asked them to open from the 1st of June, subject to final confirmation from them.

This advice and guidance from the Government has been challenging and at times confusing. One of the key directives is that the children should work in groups or bubbles of not more than 15. This will be a real challenge on the space and staff available in our school and Governors are evaluating the 'realistic' possibilities within our setting.

We have not yet been told when the Government will be informing us of the definite date that schools will be returning, we will not know this until the end of this week – giving schools just 48 hours to finalise arrangements and communicate these to Parents. This is making planning even more difficult and for this reason, the Governors have decided that the school **will only open for the key worker children that have previously been identified for the first week beginning 1st June. Any Key Worker parents newly applying for their children to attend school will be assessed on their criteria and the capacity of available places in school at the time .**

We have made 'tentative and realistic' plans for the wider opening of the school but are not yet able to give you a definite date for when the other children will return, but this will be a staggered return for the year groups that do come back. Our way forward places safety for all our children, staff, parents and our wider community, first and foremost paramount.

It is our intention to finalise our return plans once the Government announces officially, schools can 'definitely' reopen and communicate these with Parents, before children start returning. It is our view Parents need this information before they can make a definite decision whether or not they wish their child to return to school.

It has been a very unsettling time for us all and on behalf of Governors and Staff I thank you for your continued support and patience.

Your sincerely,

Mrs E Ford
Headteacher

