Wednesday 13th May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

On Sunday Boris Johnson made his first announcements about the ‘roadmap’ for the next steps as we begin to emerge from full lockdown.

Since then the full road map has been released as a document and further documents specifically related to Education settings have been shared.

We have been asked to continue to offer provision for key worker children and for vulnerable children.

In addition, from Monday 1st June, children in Robin Class, Woodpecker Class and Year 6, are to return to school. Keyworker and vulnerable children will also continue to be in school.

Year 2, 3 , 4 and 5 pupils will remain at home and continue to receive resources for learning from us.

There is a further plan to look at returning all children from the 4th July but no further details have been shared to make it possible to begin to plan for this.

**Return on 1st June**

I am busy making plans with staff and the trust to look at ways to achieve this return in line with Government guidelines. Class sizes should be no higher than 15 pupils and we will be looking at a range of measures to reduce contact and minimise risk. Children will work with their own year groups but Robin and Year 1 will be in two class bases so that numbers can be kept below 15. Lots of practical issues such as how children arrive, leave, access playtimes and lunchtimes are being reviewed to ensure that the children are keeping to their class groups.

It is something that we have been discussing and considering for some time and there are many lists and guides to help reflect on actions to support this.

I do realise that this is an extraordinary time. We were all shocked to find ourselves in lockdown and it has achieved what was needed in ensuring that our country did not deal with the horrendous demands on our health system that we saw other countries face. We all now recognise that coming out of lockdown is more challenging because so many have become used to managing their world and working out how to navigate it.

I appreciate that for many of you a return to school is a big step.

When we went into lockdown then you know we had very little notice and worked to create a new school structure for key worker children and so many news systems and processes we have never had to have before. We have had children in school every week and have had lots of experience with small numbers of pupils in ways to minimise risks.

**Next Steps**

The Government recognises that this is a big step. They have said that no parent will be fined if they do not return their child to school so I am looking for ways to work with you to make this work. If I could ask Robin, Woodpecker and Year 6 parents to share by email your thoughts and questions about returning your child on Monday 1st June I would be very grateful.

At the end of this week or early next week I will contact all parents of Robin, Woodpecker and Year 6 pupils again with further details as we are likely to have some staggered starts, changes to lunchtimes…...

My thanks and best wishes to all on behalf of all staff.

Mrs Mannix