

19<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

**Re: update on possible reopening of schools**

Thank you for your patience whilst we waited for further information on reopening schools – the government has now published more guidance, and we summarise what we know so far below.

To recap, **if** the government inform us that it is safe, schools can begin to open from as early as 1st June to **year 6, year 1, reception and nursery pupils**. However, we have been advised that individual schools are responsible for the phased return. It is your decision to send your child to school and should you decide not to send your child into school then no penalties will be issued for non-attendance. We believe that further guidance will be given before the end of May.

We have started to create a detailed plan to assess if we can welcome these year groups back. If it is safe for us to start the phased reopening of the school, we will be taking the following precautions including:

- Children will be in groups of no larger than 15 and we will keep the groups apart but we cannot guarantee social distancing within individual groups
- Staggering break times, and pick-up and drop-off times
- Increased cleaning
- Breakfast and after school provision will not take place
- Keeping pupils and staff with coronavirus symptoms at home

Based on our current plan and assessment, we are working to the following timeline for a phased return of pupils back to school:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Year Group</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> June 2020	Key worker and vulnerable children
from Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 6
Week commencing 8 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 1
Week commencing 15 <sup>th</sup> June	Nursery and Reception

We will open the school in a phased approach as long as the rigorous risk assessments we carry out gives us the reassurance we need that we can keep our pupils and staff as safe as possible. To help us with planning, if your child/ren are in the identified year groups, could you complete the [survey online](#) as to whether you are planning for your child to return to school. **Please submit your response by 9am on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May.** This is to inform our further planning so that we have an idea of the number of pupils that may return to school.

I want to reassure you that we won't be pressuring parents to send their children to school – you know what's best for your child's health and wellbeing. We will provide you with more details on the arrangements for reopening in the coming days, so you can make the appropriate decision. For pupils remaining at home, we will continue to support you and your child with home learning, and meal support for those eligible.

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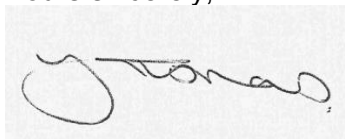
Please be reminded that in the meantime, the school is still open **only** for vulnerable pupils and the children of critical workers. Until we are told it is safe to do so, we are unable to provide places for other children.

If your child is clinically extremely vulnerable, or living with someone who is in this group, they should not come back to school and should continue home learning. If your child is clinically vulnerable (but not clinically extremely vulnerable), you should follow medical advice to decide if they should come back to school. Please refer to [government guidance](#).

Once a decision has been made about the re-opening school we will send a more detailed procedural letter.

**Please note that school will be closed to all children during half term - week commencing 25<sup>th</sup> May.**

Yours sincerely,



Mrs J Thomas  
Executive Head  
Daubeney Sebright & Lauriston Federation