



Monday 18th May 2020

Dear Parents,

We are now beginning the next phase in our planning for a possible reopening of school from Monday 1st June. As you know from Monday 23rd March school has only been open to children of key worker families. The government's proposal is that, if it is safe to do so, school could reopen more widely to Year R, Year 1 and Year 6 as well as children from key worker families, for us this could be up to approximately 70 children.

In order for schools to be able to reopen from 1st June the government have outlined 5 steps that must be achieved:

- Protect the NHS's ability to cope, and be sure that it can continue to provide critical care and specialist treatment right across the whole of the United Kingdom.
- Daily death rates from coronavirus coming down.
- Reliable data that shows the rate of infection is decreasing to manageable levels.
- Testing capacity and PPE is being managed, with supply able to meet, not just today's demand, but future demand.
- Any changes we do make will not risk a second peak of infections.

In addition, government guidance advises that schools need to ensure that the children are able to be taught in small groups of a maximum of 15 children. They will spend the day with the same adults and children depending on numbers it is possible that your child may not be taught by their own class teacher or in their familiar classroom. Start and finish times and break times and lunchtimes will be staggered for each group to allow for us to maintain strict social distancing at these peak times. Excellent hygiene routines will also have to be adhered to throughout the day. It is not possible at this present moment to provide more detailed information about plans as we are still conducting our risk assessment process to ensure that we can aim to meet the government requests; safety of our children and the adults on site is the priority in our decision making.

It would help with our planning if you could indicate, by emailing the school: admin@mordiford.hereford.sch.uk, if you are a parent of a child in Year R, Year 1, Year 6 or if you are a key worker who previously has not sent your child to school during the lockdown period and you wish your child to return to school from Monday 1st June.

Please note that this is not a definite commitment either to the school being able to open safely by this time scale or for you to send your child, but the next step in our risk assessment process. Please note for your information that there are no fines or sanctions if you choose to continue to keep your

child at home during this transition period. I would be grateful if you could reply as soon as possible as there is a Governing Body meeting in the evening on Wednesday 20th May and it would be helpful to give them approximate numbers of pupils by then.

The children attending each week have been amazing; bright, upbeat and incredibly resilient, but school has just not been the same without all of our lovely children attending. Nothing would make me happier than welcoming everybody back; however I would like to reassure you that the Governing Body and I will base any outcome about reopening the school more widely on what is safe and right for Mordiford CE Primary School using both national and regional data to support our decision making.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Thank you for your support.

Kind regards,

Kerri Finney

Head teacher