



ST. PAUL'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Friday 22nd May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to outline the current position regarding the potential reopening of St Paul's C of E Primary School for additional year groups after the half term break.

We have been using the government, Local Authority, SDBE MAT and union advice to consider if and how we can make school as safe as possible for additional children and staff to return to school with a phased reopening from the 8th June. I am sure you will agree that making a decision to reopen is not an easy one as we are still at the centre of a global pandemic during which we all remain at risk.

I have a duty of care to all staff, the children and their families at our school and I will not be rushed into a decision that could compromise the health or well-being of anyone entrusted to my care.

The 1st of June is the date *from when* schools *may* be able to open. We will continue to provide for key worker and invited children but as previously communicated in the school newsletter, I have made the decision that the **earliest** the school could admit additional pupils is the 8th of June due to the following reasons:

- We are working with constantly changing government guidance
- We need to put in place a thorough risk assessment to determine if and how it will be safe to reopen the school to additional groups of pupils.
- We have not been informed that the government's own five key tests have been met to justify a change in policy at this time
- The government will not be announcing until 28th May its final decision on the reopening of schools.

To help us determine the demand for returning to school, it would be really helpful if you could complete the questionnaire using the link below which you can do on any electronic device including mobile phones.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/BV6PVTT>

All teachers, including myself, want to see our children back in school as soon as it is safe for them to return. I am aware that there will be polarised views on this matter with some parents agreeing and some disagreeing with the decision made. I would appreciate your understanding and support at this time as we try to find a safe solution to bring more staff and children back to school. I will be writing to you during the week commencing 1st June to update you on our plans. In the meantime, I hope that you and your families stay safe and well.

Kind regards

Ali Silke

Headteacher

Headteacher: Mrs Ali Silke

Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Tracey Crannitch

Chair of Governors: Mr Peter Chadwick

Administrative Manager: Mrs Sandra Bettinelli

