



Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Primary School

Hawthorn Lane, Tile Hill, Coventry. CV4 9LB
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8th June 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Following the government announcement that schools can open to wider pupils, I am writing to notify you of our plans to reopen to pupils in **Nursery and Reception from Wednesday 10th June**, and to pupils in **Year 1 from Monday 15th June**.

The government initially announced that they would like schools to open to children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 6. This was later clarified to include Nursery children. Since the announcement I have been working with the teachers, governors and Local Authority to plan how we can safely re-open to more children whilst also remaining open for key worker and vulnerable children.

I and the governors consider the safety of the staff and pupils to be the utmost priority, as do the Local Authority who have been working closely with Unions to ensure that all reasonable steps are taken to reduce the risk to staff and pupils. As such, the Local Authority has issued its own guidelines to all Coventry schools concerning the number of children that can safely be accommodated in a classroom. For us, that will be between 8 and 10 children, depending on the classroom. Taking this into account, we do not have the capacity to re-open to all year groups specified by the government in their initial announcement.

In deciding for which year groups to open, we have followed the government and Local Authority guidance which states that schools should prioritise key worker and vulnerable children, then Nursery children, then Reception children, then Year 1 and finally Year 6. This means that we will be open to Nursery, Reception and Year 1. I understand that this will be extremely disappointing and frustrating to some of our Year 6 families and I can assure you that we have considered all options in arriving at this decision, but we simply do not have the capacity to re-open to Year 6 at the moment.

If your child is in Year 2, Year 3, Year 4 or Year 5 there are currently no guidelines regarding when they might return to school and it is possible that they may not be able to return this term.





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We will be taking a phased approach to re-opening with **Nursery and Reception pupils back from Wednesday 10th June** followed by **Year 1 pupils from Monday 15th June**. We will be only be open from Monday to Thursday and will close to pupils on a Friday. This will allow staff necessary planning time and will enable a weekly deep clean of classrooms.

I appreciate that not all parents will be ready to send their child back to school and the government has stated that parents who decide to keep their children at home will not be penalised. For children who are not attending school, teachers will continue to set home learning tasks. However, as all staff will be teaching full time from the 10th June, this will be in the form of weekly, rather than daily, tasks and it will not be possible for teachers to provide the same level of feedback to pupils.

I am also writing individually to parents of the different groups involved with more details of our plans.

If you have any questions or queries, please contact the school by phone or email.

Again, I wish to thank you for your support and patience at this very difficult time.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs R Askew
Headteacher

Mr M Sharkey
Chair of Governors

