Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you and your families are safe and well in these very challenging times.

Thank you for all your support and for following advice to keep your children at home whenever possible. Our major priority, as it has been since the onset of this awful crisis, remains the health and safety of pupils and their families and of our staff who continue to care for vulnerable pupils and the children of key workers. We know that you will share this priority.

We wanted to provide further clarity following the Government’s announcement that schools will re-open no earlier than June 1st to the following year groups; Nursery, Reception, Y1 and Y6 on what you can expect to happen next.

As stated the safety and welfare of your children, you as parents and all of our staff in schools is of paramount importance and whilst we are eager to get children back into education, we need to ensure that this is not putting them and others at increased risk of infection from Covid-19 at this time. The Government & the TUC (Trade Union Council) set five tests to measure whether any extension of school opening is safe for society, for children and their families and for the staff who work in them. These tests have not yet been met.

We want to begin a phased opening as soon as possible, however, given the need for safety from June 1st 2020 we will continue to offer childcare only to children of Key Workers and for vulnerable groups during this week as we expect these numbers to increase.

If there is any further safe capacity, following rigorous risk assessment, additional pupils will be invited to return in small, manageable numbers from the year groups identified by the government as priority. This phased re-introduction, if safe to do so, will take place from the 8th of June 2020 beginning with Y6. We hope to invite Y1 children back from 15th June and Reception / Nursery children back from 22nd June but this is understandably subject to change. All our plans must ensure that children are invited back at the right time and when we can offer you as parents the reassurances you will need that your child will be safe. We will contact you by Class Dojo in the week before your child is due to return to ask if he/she will be coming into school. This gives you plenty of time to think about your decision. We have produced a risk assessment that details the controls we will have in place to reduce any risk of infection should your child return to school. Please read this document as it contains important information and highlights the responsibilities that will fall upon us all to keep our whole school community as safe as possible.

Thank you for supporting school with our best endeavours to bring more children into school over the coming weeks, whilst prioritising everyone’s health and well-being and being guided by Government advice and Guidance for when it is safe to do so.

We would like to thank you for your kindness, understanding and ongoing patience at this very difficult time

Yours sincerely,

Mrs P Farnell Mrs A Lashley

Headteacher Chair of Governors