



21 May 2020

Executive Head Teacher: Mr G.A. Fullwood B.Ed.(Hons)

Dear Parents/Carers,

## **RE: UPDATE ON POSSIBLE RE-OPENING OF SCHOOLS**

Firstly, I hope you are well: staying safe and remaining positive? Thank you for your patience while we waited for further information from the Department for Education (DFE) on reopening schools. More guidance has now been published and I summarise what we know so far.

To recap, if the government thinks it is safe, schools will be instructed to begin to open to selected year groups. Thank you to all those parents/carers in the possible targeted year groups who responded to our very quick survey last Friday. This was simply a quick exercise to gain an approximate idea of possible numbers in selected year groups should schools reopen. Your response was not deemed a commitment but just an indication to aid us with possible plans.

Over the next week, we will be creating a detailed draft plan to make sure that we can safely respond to any instruction to re-open to targeted year groups. This is only if it is considered safe for us to start the phased reopening of school. Precautions we will be taking include:

- ✓ Limiting class sizes
- ✓ Staggering break and lunch times, as well as drop-off and pick-up times
- ✓ Increased cleaning
- ✓ A modified curriculum
- ✓ Keeping pupils and staff with possible coronavirus symptoms at home

If your child is clinically extremely vulnerable

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19/covid-19-guidance-on-protecting-people-most-likely-to-get-unwell-from-coronavirus-shielding-young-peoples-version>, 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

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/staying-alert-and-safe-social-distancing/staying-alert-and-safe-social-distancing#clinically-vulnerable-people> (but not clinically extremely vulnerable) you should follow medical advice to decide if they should come back to school if invited. Please refer to government guidance for further details of these groups.

Our School Closure Club (finally renamed Rainbow Club) has remained open every day since 23 March. This Club for vulnerable pupils and children of key workers will remain open at Kersall Drive for the rest of the Summer Term.

Please be assured, that should you receive an invitation for your child to attend school as part of a wider re-opening of schools you will not be pressured into sending your child to school. You know what is best for your child's health and well-being. As mentioned, we will provide more details about any arrangements as soon as possible so that you are able to make an informed decision.

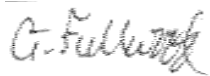


However, as I write this letter the government's proposal to re-open primary schools to more pupils from Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June is still conditional, and the re-opening of schools will only happen if the 5 key tests set out by the government have been met. Therefore, any future draft plan's outlining Heathfield's strategy will be subject to change.

For pupils at home, we will continue to support you and your child with home learning, and meal support for those eligible.

Thank you for your continued support, cooperation and understanding.

Yours sincerely



Gary Fullwood  
Executive Head Teacher

