

Headteacher: James Tibbles
Tel: 01227 830276
Email: office@bridge.kent.sch.uk
Web: www.bridge.kent.sch.uk

Bridge & Patrixbourne CEP School
Conyngham Lane
Bridge, Canterbury
Kent
CT4 5JX



Tuesday 9th June 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

You may have already seen on the news this afternoon, the government announced that they were abandoning their ambition to get Year 2 to 5 children back to school and continued their strategy of shifting risk and culpability onto schools and parents by stating that schools have the 'flexibility' to welcome pupils back if they had the capacity.

Whilst I am sure that this will come as a disappointment to many of you, I can't imagine that this has come as much of a surprise. We are currently running 10 groups and expect to be running 12 groups as from next week. Given the limitations of maximum class sizes, staffing and rooms available in the school we will, from next week, be at capacity.

I know that there is significant concern from our parents on the emotional and academic deficit that will be faced by all children upon their return to school – addressing this will be a priority for the coming academic year.

Transition into New Year Groups

Over the next couple of weeks we will be planning our transition arrangements and will have more information for you soon.

Kent Test

More immediately, parents of Year 5 children may be anxious about the implications for the Kent Test. At the time of writing this letter I am still awaiting information from Kent County Council about when exactly the Kent Test will take place but as soon as I have any information, I will share this with you. In the meantime, I would like to reiterate what I said during the Kent Test presentation that the Kent Test is not designed to assess the National Curriculum and that, were the children in school, we would not be doing any Kent Test preparation work with them.

Home-Learning

All teachers who are not shielding are with groups of children full-time but we will be continuing with our home-learning offer for all children not in school.

Maths home-learning will continue to be based on White Rose. I did read a comment on the parental survey that a parent was under the impression they had to purchase a subscription themselves. **Please do not purchase anything from White Rose yourself, the school has purchased the premium subscription and we are uploading these resources onto the school website.**



English home-learning will reflect what is being taught in school.

There will continue to be ongoing projects and challenges posted on the school website.

Staff will continue to record and send home weekly videos for children who are not in school and we will also be offering 10-minute Zoom calls if requested. I have received a great deal of positive feedback from parents about this and I would urge you to take advantage of this to maintain relationships between your child and their class teacher.

I have set up a **School Closure: Phased Return** page on the school website and this includes a Frequently Asked Questions section. If you have a question you would like answered then please email it in and I will add it to the page. My email address is headteacher@bridge.kent.sch.uk

Thank you again for your ongoing support and understanding.

Yours sincerely,



James Tibbles,
Headteacher