



<u>Re-Opening our Schools</u>

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you will be aware, the government has announced plans that they are considering re-opening schools from Monday 1st June 2020 in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6. A further announcement from the government about this is expected within the next week.

We are therefore writing to you to explain the position of the REAch2 Academy Trust at this time. As I am sure you understand, there is nothing more important to us than the safety of the children, our staff and the community of our schools. Although we are really looking forward to welcoming back some of the children, we will only re-open our schools when we are satisfied that it is safe enough to do so.

For this reason, we have taken the decision to not re-open any REAch2 school earlier than Monday 8th June 2020. For some schools, the opening date may be later than this. The reason for this is to give our schools more time to prepare for re-opening and take every measure reasonably possible to keep your children and our staff safe.

For each school a full risk assessment is being carried out by Headteachers and Trust leaders. This is to ensure that we are fully confident that the school is ready to open to more pupils. This risk assessment will take into account issues such as the need to maintain stringent cleaning practices with more pupils, maintaining social distancing wherever possible and renewed arrangements for supporting children in a very different environment that they aren't used to.

We will be regularly reviewing our risk assessments and when these show that it is possible to open the school up to other year groups, we will do so as soon as possible. Headteachers will inform you as parents at the earliest possible opportunity about the plans, along with any arrangements that are specific to each school.

In the meantime, the school continues to operate a childcare facility for:

- Children of critical workers
- Vulnerable pupils: those with a EHCP, with a Social Worker, or those with vulnerability to whom the school have decided to offer a childcare place.

We encourage you to send your children to the childcare facility if you fall into the above groups.

In addition, the school will also continue to provide home learning activities and maintain regular contact for all other pupils who are not at school.

We would like to thank you all for your continued support and to the hard-working staff who are doing everything within their power to make the school as safe as possible for children. Working together we will find a way to ensure that your child's school is once again a place where they can flourish and enjoy their learning in the way that they deserve.

Yours sincerely,

Sir Steve Lancashire, CEO

Cathie Paine, DCEO

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Katherine Alexander, COO