



Hawes Side Academy

Principal: Mrs C Boothroyd
B.Ed (Hons) NPQH

Johnsville Avenue,
Blackpool, FY4 3LN

(Registration No.8161246)

19th May 2020

To Parents/Carers of Foundation Stage, Year 1 and Year 6 children

Over the past week, we have been carrying out work in response to the Government's announcement that schools may potentially re-open after the half term holiday on the 8th June. We have been asked to create a plan that will enable us to safely reopen school to eligible pupils.

As I am sure you are aware, the government is asking schools to consider if it is possible to welcome Foundation Stage, Year 1 and Year 6 children back to school from the 1st June along with the current children of key workers. The government have asked us to revisit our risk assessments and assess our risk of accepting the children they suggest back into school.

This is an interesting challenge because when you usually assess risks you know what the risks are and then make an assessment about whether they can be controlled to an acceptable level. We do not know what the risks are of children spreading the Coronavirus – it is very difficult to assess the overall level of risk to children, families and staff.

The safety of our children, staff and all their families is at the heart of all our decisions. We are currently in the process of carrying out risk assessments, taking into account the government guidance, and are slowly formulating a plan on **who**, **when** and **how** some children could possibly return to school on the 8th June following our school holiday pattern. In order to reopen, small steps must be taken to ensure that we are keeping the risk as low as we can. Although we are still formalising the plan, I can say with some certainty that not all year groups will return on the 8th June. Opening to all the suggested children from the first day would be a Health and Safety risk at this time.

In order to plan effectively, we need to find out some information from you. During the next 48 hours, school will telephone you to find out if you are considering sending your child back to school, but before you make that decision there are a few things we would like you to be aware of:

- ***your child may not be taught by their class teacher or a member of staff familiar to them***
- ***your child may not be taught in their usual classroom***
- ***your child may not be taught in a class with their friends as classes would be limited to 10 children***

“Everyone Matters, Everyone Succeeds”

- ***opportunities to mix in social groups won't be permitted (they may not be able to play with their friends)***
- ***the school day is likely to be shorter and lunch may not be provided***
- ***start and end times of the day may need to be staggered***
- ***dropping off and collecting children will be carefully managed, you may have to wait***
- ***breakfast and afterschool club will not be available***

We will share with you the proposed plan detailing our safe reopening and the control measures we will be putting in place as soon as we can. We will keep this plan under constant review and will follow latest government advice and guidance.

We would like to also take this opportunity to thank you very much for your understanding, continued patience and invaluable support shown to all the school and wider community.

Yours sincerely

Caroline Boothroyd
Principal