



Hawes Side Academy

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

Johnsville Avenue,
Blackpool, FY4 3LN

(Registration No.8161246)

Dear Parents, Carers and Families

4th June 2020

I wanted to write to you on behalf of the Hawes Side Academy Governing Board, firstly to thank you all for all your support and understanding during these unprecedented times and secondly to share our latest update regarding re-opening the school to additional children in Foundation Stage extra to our critical worker children.

As you may be aware, there are new safety standards that have been issued detailing how schools should be adapted to be able to operate safely, including regular hand washing, hygiene and cleaning measures, small consistent "bubble" groups of children and staff, and an agreed safe number of children that can be accommodated in one space at one time. The leadership team at Hawes Side have conducted thorough risk assessments and have determined that our safe number will be class sizes consisting of no more than 8 pupils at this current time.

To facilitate the safe return of our children, and help us to promote social distancing guidelines, we will be introducing a number of safety measures including staggered drop-off and collection times, safe movement around the building, regular use of our outdoor space throughout the session and dedicated entry/exit points for each bubble group.

Before we welcome the children back, it is essential that we give our Academy staff the opportunity to fully familiarise themselves with our new processes and procedures, so that we can confidently ensure all safety measures are established and in place to help keep everyone in our community safe.

We have therefore taken the decision to delay the return of our Foundation Stage children. We are currently working in line with many schools locally towards a predicted return date of Monday 15th June, however a number of internal reviews and discussions are still underway to ensure all measures can be safely established by then, so a formal decision will be made on Wednesday 10th June. The decision will be communicated to you all by Thursday 11th June.

I realise that this short delay may be disappointing and I want to assure you that we did not take this decision lightly. Our utmost priority is ensuring we can keep our children and staff safe at all times.

Our Principal, Mrs Boothroyd, supported by her Vice Principal Mr Glynn and Assistant Principal Mrs Beckett, will spend this week and the week of the 8th June walking all of our staff through the new processes and procedures to ensure we are ready to hopefully receive the Foundation Stage children from the 15th June.

Again, I want thank you for all your support and understanding.

Stay safe everyone.

Tracy Wilson
Chair of Governors

"Everyone Matters, Everyone Succeeds"