



Hawes Side Academy

Principal: Mrs C Boothroyd
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(Registration No.8161246)

Dear Parents and Carers

11th June 2020

Following on from the letter by our Chair of Governors last week, I would like to update you as promised about the arrangements we have made for a wider school opening. As you will appreciate, we have had to consider many things to facilitate more children into the academy and our priority remains with providing places for our children of key workers and for those whom are vulnerable. Considering all this, we can now announce that we will be welcoming the group of Foundation Stage children who have already requested a place into school on Monday 22nd June. We will send further information to you detailing what this will look like for your child, systems for picking up and dropping off and who the adults will be working with your child. We are very excited about welcoming them back into the academy.

As you'll be aware, the Department for Education has recently announced that all children will not be returning to school before September due to the requirements around social distancing in schools, the priority must still remain for key workers and vulnerable children. As we have growing numbers of key worker children now attending the academy, and by opening our doors to the Foundation Stage children as the next priority group, it saddens me to say that we do not have the capacity to welcome Y1 and Y6 children back to the academy before the end of term. We appreciate that this is not the news some of you wanted to hear but will continue to follow government guidance and keep the situation under constant review.

When lock down was announced in March, we had hoped that we would have the chance for the whole school to be together by the end of this term, but even the government now recognises that this is an impossible task. We know that it has been hard for many families as you are facing your own challenges but please remember, if you need help in any way we have a [page on our website with different agencies and support groups for you to use](#) or please call the academy office.

We are also sensitive to the fact many of the children are also finding this period of uncertainty very difficult to deal with. Now that we know schools will not be opening to all year groups for the foreseeable future, we felt the need to support them by launching a new app called Zumos. The aim of the app is to build your child's self-confidence and support their wellbeing, enabling them to deal with life's challenges as they arise and develop their personal resilience, a lifelong skill that is needed particularly in today's society. As soon as Zumos is ready to launch we will let you know and share more details with you about how it works.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you once again for your continued understanding, cooperation and patience throughout these very challenging and unprecedented times.

Take care and I look forward to the day when our school community can be back together again.

Caroline Boothroyd
Principal

"Everyone Matters, Everyone Succeeds"