



Monday 11th May

Dear Parents and Carers,

In light of the Prime Minister's address to the nation on Sunday night and the further guidance that we have received today in 'The UK Government's COVID-19 recovery strategy', I wanted to provide our assessment of what it means for parents, carers, children and schools.

The document specifically refers to education within phase 2 of the recovery strategy and states that we should be planning for a phased return for schools. Specifically, it says that:

- Schools should prepare to begin to open for more children from 1st June.
- From this point, the Government expects children in Early Years' settings, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 to be back in school in smaller sizes. How this will look in real terms has not yet been clarified.
- Secondary schools should also prepare to begin some face to face contact with Year 10 and 12 pupils who have key exams next year, in support of their continued remote, home learning.
- The Government's ambition is for all primary school children to return to school before the summer for a month if feasible, though this will be kept under review.

We are seeking clarification from the Government and our Local Authority on how this will impact Rackham. No date has been announced for this. It goes without saying that we will continue to provide home learning materials to all those not attending school and Mrs. Ward will continue to coordinate this and share it with you on a weekly basis.

Rest assured that safety and well-being are key elements of our reopening planning. Prior to any pupil returning we will outline what measures we have in place to minimise the risks of being in school. Rackham and several other schools in Cambridgeshire intend to send a parental survey home soon to gauge parental views regarding the Government's plan.

To summarise, until the 1st June our status is as it has been since the 23rd March – we are only open for those children of critical workers who need to be cared for while their parent(s) are at work and for those children deemed 'vulnerable'.

Thank you for all the support we have received so far, it has made a huge difference.

Kind Regards,
Bridget Harrison

