



Red Marsh School

learn care challenge share

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Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this letter finds you all safe and well. Thank you so much for your continuing patience and support in these very worrying and confusing times. As a school we still feel the safest place for your child is at home with you.

As you know the Prime Minister made an announcement, outlining that pupils in Reception, Year 1, Y6 and Y10 may look to return to school from 01 June however, in the guidance that came out following the announcement, it is very clear that this does not apply to special schools.

It is also clear that attendance at school is a personal choice and for those parents who want to protect their child and keep them at home, this will be supported and encouraged. There will be no consequences or fines from the school or the local authority for keeping your child off school.

Everything we are trying to do in school is to ensure our precious children are as safe as possible.

Unfortunately guidance is changing on a daily basis. At the time of writing this letter we are awaiting guidance specifically for special schools.

As you know throughout the pandemic Red Marsh School has continued to be open for keyworkers and children at risk from harm. In addition staff have been providing: home school learning; support for pupils and their families; delivering resources and ensuring families, who are entitled, receive meal vouchers. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff who have been working bravely and relentlessly throughout this challenging time.

Our plan to move forward, meeting government guidance, and safely increasing numbers in school.

1. Encourage parents who can, to keep their child at home with them, as this is the safest place.
2. Continue to regularly update the individual pupil risk assessment in order to allocate places in school. The risk assessment takes into account the views of parents and other professionals.
3. To increase numbers slowly.
4. From the 15th June identify as far as possible consistent groups of pupils, in consistent bases, supported by a consistent group of staff members who are familiar to them i.e. trying to work in a social bubble.
5. In order to increase safety, the majority of pupils will be given part time places to allow more pupils to have the opportunity to access school, should they wish.
6. Review the impact each time we increase numbers. We will increase numbers in waves and leave 14 days between each wave to ensure the school continues to be safe for those attending.
7. Continue to update our school-based risk assessments to ensure safety is paramount for all those onsite

Potential time line for pupils attending school

Wave 1

23rd March- Present

Vulnerable children i.e. those at risk from harm and Key worker families working outside the home for example in the NHS and care homes.

Wave 2

1st June 2020

There will be an increase in the number of pupils who can attend school. Numbers and pupils attending will be based upon our risk assessment. If your child is in this wave you will have been informed via a telephone call.

Wave 3

15th June 2020

If the increase in numbers has been assessed as being safe i.e. no reported cases of Covid 19, and the government guidance is for schools to increase numbers, there will be a further increase in the number of pupils in school. This will be based upon our risk assessment. If your child is **potentially** going to be in this wave you will be informed 5 working days before. This is when social bubbles will be introduced,

Wave 4

29th June 2020

If the increase in numbers has been assessed as being safe, i.e. no reported cases of Covid 19, and the government guidance is for schools to increase numbers, there will be a further increase in the number of pupils in school. This will be based upon our risk assessment. If your child is **potentially** going to be in this wave you will be informed 5 working days before.

Whilst the guidance continues, we will continue to increase numbers in waves following the pattern above.

All the staff at Red Marsh School are missing the children and want school to return to full capacity as soon as it is as safe as possible.

Best Wishes

Catherine Dellow
Headteacher