



*In God's Hands*

## **ST. IGNATIUS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Headteacher: Mr. C.J. Bonner

22<sup>nd</sup> May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you and all your families are keeping well in these challenging times.

Following the Government's request to schools to prepare to reopen to some year groups from June 1st, senior leaders and the governing body have been working to make preparations so that this can be done safely, in such a way that we minimise the risks to pupils, staff and parents as much as possible.

We have been taking advice from the local authority, professional bodies, local schools and staff to formulate risk assessments to support our planning for a safe reopening.

The governing body have been monitoring the situation closely and are committed to prioritising the safety of our school community. Having followed this process, we feel we are unable to open the school on 1<sup>st</sup> June. We intend to commence a phased return on 8<sup>th</sup> June.

Initially the school will be open to eligible pupils in Year 6 only. This will be on a part-time basis, and we will only widen the return of pupils once it is evident that the safety measures we are introducing are effective in reducing the risk of contracting Covid-19 in school.

We hope this process will extend to Year 1 pupils later in June, but this is subject to the successful implementation of the Year 6 pupils return.

All of these proposals are subject to the government deciding that school reopening will go ahead, and we expect an announcement regarding this on 28<sup>th</sup> May.

Should the reopening go ahead, the children will be placed in small groups, or 'pods' and will be expected to follow social distancing rules. They will have a designated member of staff (which may not be their class teacher) and will have strictly limited freedom of movement in their assigned building.

Initially, this provision will be on a part time basis only. Children cannot bring any belongings from home into the school, and a packed lunch will be provided in school for these pupils. Further guidance on this and other health and safety issues will be shared with the parents and carers of eligible pupils after half term.

I would like to encourage you to keep using our online learning and Class Dojo resources – it's been great to see some of the wonderful activities you have been sharing with the children.

Once again, we look forward to all returning to school when it is safe and, in the meantime, please stay in touch via phone or email.

During the week when we have celebrated the Feast of the Ascension we especially ask the Holy Spirit to guide and protect us all.

Your sincerely,

*C J Bonner*

Mr. C.J. Bonner