



## The Willows Catholic Primary School

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27<sup>th</sup> May 2020

### Wider Opening Update

Dear Parents,

Following our Governors meeting last night, I am now in a position to be able to provide you with a more detailed update on how we are going open school to more children.

As you will know, the Government issued updated guidance to bring Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 children into school from the 1<sup>st</sup> June, at the earliest. Following the Government advice we will be staggering the entry of each year group.

At The Willows, we are hoping to bring children back into school following the timetable set out below:

- Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June – this will be the earliest Reception children will be invited back to school
- Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June – this will be the earliest Year 1 children will be invited back
- Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June – this will be the earliest Year 6 children will be invited back

***Please note, these dates are all provisional and may change.***

We will be constantly assessing and reassessing the measures we have in place to ensure the safety of the children and staff to the best of our abilities and therefore it may be necessary to alter the dates of the returns for each group. We will only open school to each group when we are as confident as we can be that it is safe to do so. Whilst school is trying very hard to minimise the risk of any child or adult contracting COVID19, parents must be aware that we cannot guarantee that your child will not come in contact with it, due to widening of the social boundaries from home isolation to our school setting. There is always going to be a risk, which all parents need to be aware of. This is why the decision to send your child back to school is solely one for you as a parent to make and school will fully support you, in whichever decision you make.

On the Friday before each date, we will survey each year group to identify who will be coming back the following Monday so that we can be prepared to welcome your child.

Likewise, prior to your child's year group returning, you will receive a detailed pack with lots of useful information. This will be sent to all parents, regardless as to whether your child will be returning or not. We will also send a Welcome Back leaflet that we would like you to share with your child.

Initially the Government announced that they were aiming to have all year groups back in school for at least a month prior to the summer holidays. Given the current restrictions of 15 children in one classroom with one teacher, staggered start and finish times and the necessary safety measures that have to be in place in school, it would be impossible for us to accommodate any other year groups in school. The only way we would be able to do this, is if the 2 metre social distancing rule and the restriction of 15 children with one teacher are both removed. We will be using every classroom base and the hall to accommodate the return of Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 and the





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Key Worker Club children, so currently it is **highly unlikely** that any other year groups will be returning before September.

In the meantime, we are in the process of publishing our Risk Assessment and the questions our Governors asked about this to our website. We hope you will find this useful as well as reassuring.

Thanking you for your cooperation and understanding. Please stay safe, happy and well.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. S. A. Barnett  
Headteacher

