



Head Teacher:	Mrs S Thorpe
Assistant Head Teachers:	Mrs S Farrow
	Mrs N Watson
	Miss V Harron
	Mr M Cuthbertson

Fakenham Avenue
Middlesbrough
TS5 4QQ

Tel: 01642 817713	Fax: 01642 828621
-------------------	-------------------

Dear Parents and Carers,

Hope this finds you safe and well.

Thank you for your support and understanding during these very challenging times. We are really missing everyone and appreciate your great efforts to support the children's learning while they have not been at school. Our dedicated staff have been working very hard to keep the learning going for those children at home, for vulnerable children and the children of key workers in school.

As you will know, the government announced their decision that schools may reopen for Nursery children, Reception, Y1 and Y6 after the half term holiday from June 1st at the earliest. Vulnerable children and children of key workers will also continue to come to school regardless of their year group.

We have received further guidance, which is helping us to create an action plan for this phased reopening.

The plan we are now working on has the safety of your children and of our staff as the highest priority. There are a number of measures we will need to implement in school in order to minimise the risk of infection and to maintain as much social distancing as is possible with very young children.

It is important that you appreciate school will be very different to what your children are used to. There will be changes to the way in which you are able to access the site, drop off and pick up children in order to comply with appropriate social distancing measures for example:

- Children will be placed in classes of no more than 15 children
- Your child may not have their usual teacher
- Your child may not have their usual classroom
- We may need to reorganise classes so your child could be with different children
- Start and finish times will be different for each class to enable social distancing at drop off/pick up times
- Children will not be allowed to mix with other classes to support social distancing; they will remain in their 'group' throughout the day including break and lunch times
- There will be no hot meals available – packed lunches only will be offered to those who normally have a school meal

Pupil and staff safety will remain the primary concern in any planning and it may not be possible to welcome back all pupils in the way the prime minister described.

We are contacting parents and carers of children in the specified year groups to get an indication of your intention to send your child back to school. You will appreciate that this information is really important in order to help us plan. Please email to inform us of your decision by Monday morning (18th May) using the appropriate year group email addresses.

It is also crucially important that you inform us if a member of your household is identified as Clinically Extremely Vulnerable – that is, they have received a letter or text from the NHS informing them to shield for a minimum of 12 weeks.

It is an extremely unsettling time for us all, but rest assured we will be doing everything we can to make sure we are ready to receive these year groups. We will do our upmost to ensure that school is as safe as possible, however we fully understand if you have concerns about your child returning to school.

It is important that you make an informed decision as to whether you choose to send your child back to school since only you know your children and your personal situation best. There is the offer of a place though no parent will be penalised if you choose not to send your child. There will be no attendance proceedings or consequences during this time.

We are very keen for school and your child's education to return to normal however, we must ensure that we do this as safely as possible and in collaboration with parents and carers. School will remain open during the half term holiday for vulnerable children and children of key workers.

We will continue to keep you informed as we receive further information. Please check our website and Twitter regularly for up-to-date information. This has been, and continues to be, an extremely challenging time for everyone. Please do get in touch if you have any questions or concerns and most importantly, keep safe.

Thank you again for your continued support.

With very best wishes,

Mrs Thorpe

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/reopening-schools-and-other-educational-settings-from-1-june>

