



Tudor Grange Primary Academy, St James

12th May 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

We know that many of you will be following the announcements made by the Government over the past two days.

A lot of guidance was published for the first time yesterday evening. A link for parents and carers was published here:

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

We want to share this with you now so that you know what we are reviewing at the moment. Now that we have more guidance, we will be:

- working with you as parents and carers to understand your concerns and views so that we take this into consideration in our planning. When we issue a survey in the next few days, please do take time to complete this for us.
- conducting a detailed review of our site with advisors from Bellrock (the specialist company who manage our facilities). This will help us to make a plan for the changes we need to make to support hygiene and social distancing measures as we open to more pupils.
- working with our staff to understand their views and concerns to ensure that we have a very clear picture of who can be in school and who will need to work from home.

These initial actions will then enable us to consider in detail how we can support the Government's plans for the remainder of the summer term:

- From the 1st June, the Government expects children to be able to return to early years settings, and for Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 to be back in school in smaller class sizes.
- 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.





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It is now clear that pupils in all other year groups who have not attended school since the closures in March are not likely to return to school until September.

The Government have changed their guidance for children of critical workers attending school. It is no longer that case that you need to keep your child at home if you can, you are now encouraged to use the small school provision in place. If we know you are a critical worker, we will be contacting you to understand whether you want your child to attend school so that we can plan carefully for any increase in pupil numbers.

We are also already committed to:

- continuing to run our small school provision for the children of critical workers and vulnerable children
- continuing to provide vouchers to support our families eligible for free school meals
- working closely with our secondary partner schools to plan how we can support the experience for children transitioning from our school in September
- ensuring our distance learning resources and delivery continues to improve for all year groups

We will also need to think about how we develop the flexibilities that may be required if partial closures remain in place for a long time.

We understand the need for us to plan to re-open the school to more pupils. Our priority will always be the health and welfare of our pupils and our staff and so we will take as much time as we need to work out what we think is best for everyone. We are committed to consulting with you, keeping you informed and seeking advice and guidance as we develop our thoughts.

You may want to start talking to your child about the possibility of returning to school, you will know your child best in terms of whether this will cause them anxiety or whether it is better for them to start to prepare for their return to school. Before they return to school, we will of course send further guidance on how school may be different for them and what they can expect so that they are as prepared as they can be for their return.





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Thank you for continuing to support your children and us, and thank you for the thoughtful messages we continue to receive; we are confident that we will find a way through that works best for this community.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'S Deakin', written in a cursive style.

Miss S Deakin
Executive Principal for Primary



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