



## St Barnabas and St Philip's Primary School

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We all hope that you have had a good week and are continuing to heed government advice around social distancing and keeping safe, albeit that the regulations and recommendations have been slightly adjusted.

You will have heard and be eager to know more about the proposed reopening of schools in a phased way from the 1<sup>st</sup> June 2020.

We are working out the best course of action and planning how to reintroduce children to school, not only so that that they have the opportunity to settle back in to school life, but also so that they, you and all the staff are as safe as possible.

Here are some initial headlines to help you to make sense of the situation.

- The government's aim is for a phased, partial re-opening of schools, starting with Year R, Year 1 and Year 6 in groups no larger than 15 pupils from 1<sup>st</sup> June. The government have chosen these year groups as a priority.
- At our school **Reception** will return on **Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June**  
**Year 1** will return on **Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June**  
**Year 6** will return on **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June**
- The children of key workers and vulnerable children (using the government's definitions) in other year groups can also attend school. These families already know who they are. These children can attend from 1<sup>st</sup> June.
- This means that children from Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 class will be split into two/three groups, groups A /B /C.
- Each group will have its own classroom and will be taught by one adult every day (the same adult where possible).
- The government have acknowledged that it is impossible to follow the two metre social distancing rule in schools.
- The government has said that it is not necessary for staff or children to wear masks or other PPE in school except in exceptional circumstances.
- All of the classrooms in the school and many other rooms will be in use in order for this to work for Reception, Year 1 and Year 6. It therefore seems unlikely that other year groups will be able to come back to school before the summer holidays as there will be no room for them.
- We will continue with learning from home for pupils who are not in school as best we can, taking into account that all teachers will be teaching small groups of pupils in school every day.
- School will start at 9.00am and end at 3.30pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.
- We will slightly stagger start and end times of the day for each year group in order to make social distancing a little easier for parents at drop off and pick up times.
- There will be a staggered start: Year 6-8.45am, Year 1 9.00am, Reception 9.15am
- There will be staggered collection: Reception-3.00pm, Year 1-3.15pm, Year 6 3.30pm
- School will start at 9.00am and end at 12.00 midday on Wednesdays in order to give teachers their statutory planning time. Staggered collection times on Wednesdays will be: Year 6-12 midday, Year 1 11.45 am, Reception 11.45am. Packed lunches will be taken home with the children.
- There will be no breakfast club/learning centre or after school clubs as stated in the government guidance, in order to prevent different groups of pupils from mixing.

- All children in school will have a packed lunch every day.
- As the government has stated in their guidance, parents will not be allowed to enter school buildings except in exceptional circumstances so our communication with you will be by text and telephone.
- We have deep cleaning and other hygiene protocols already in place ready to reopen.

**The final decision about this will be reliant on scientific tests set out by the government and which will be reviewed on 28<sup>th</sup> May. The government's roadmap says: *"It is possible that the dates ... will be delayed if these conditions are not met. Changes will be announced at least 48 hours before coming into effect."***

There is, of course, a great deal more to say about all of this. These plans are subject to advice and direction from the government, Department for Education, Public Health, the Local Authority and the Teaching Unions. The teaching unions have advised their members to refuse to attend school at the moment. However, we feel it is important to have a clear plan of action based on current guidance.

**If your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 6 please will you e mail the school office on [vera.vagic@sbsp.rbkc.sch.uk](mailto:vera.vagic@sbsp.rbkc.sch.uk) by Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May to let us know if you wish your child to return to school on 2<sup>nd</sup> June Reception, 8<sup>th</sup> June Year 1, 15<sup>th</sup> June Year 6.**

### **Keeping in touch with you**

As you know, we are keeping in regular touch with you via these weekly letters and through the learning from home materials. The class teachers will continue to write to the classes not attending school on a weekly basis (one of their favourite jobs) and if you have any questions please contact the school office.

In the **week beginning 25<sup>th</sup> May** (this is an amendment), we will attempt to call every family to say hello to you and your children. We will mainly be calling you from our school telephones so you will see the school name come up on your telephone. Please do answer if we call.

We are not checking up on how much work children have been doing. As we have said from the start, it is for you to decide how best to run your households and if you and your family are healthy and happy that is a success!

We thank you all, as always, for your continued support and perseverance during these unprecedented times. We whole heartedly look forward to reuniting teaching staff, children and parents when the time is right.

Rest assured of our best endeavours and we shall be updating you with any information or changes. We will ensure that we keep the safety of our school community at the heart of how we move forward.

Best wishes

<b>Mrs Vagic</b>	Head of School
<b>Mrs Harris</b>	Executive Headteacher
<b>Mr Con Mossios</b>	Chair of Governors