



19/05/20

Dear parents and carers

Re: update on possible reopening of schools

I hope you are all well and finding time to enjoy this lovely weather. I am writing to update you on our current plans, in light of the recent announcement from the government that schools may start to re-open from the 1st June. I am very aware that this announcement is receiving a lot of coverage in the press and on social media, and you are likely to hold your own views about this plan. I know some of you are comfortable sending your child back to school from the 1st June, if you can. I also know that some of you will be feeling very anxious and are not planning to send your child back to school yet, for lots of reasons. It is absolutely your decision and we will support you either way.

It is also important to point out that the final decision around schools opening has not yet been made. Our plans will change if the government decide it is not yet safe to open schools.

At the moment, the key year groups that **may** start to return are children in **Nursery, Reception, Y1 and Y6**. There are no definite plans yet for children in Y2, 3, 4 or 5 to return, unless you are a key worker or your child is vulnerable. We are taking a slow, caution approach to reopening, offering out places first to Year 1 on the 1st June and then extending to Y6 and Reception from the 8th June. We are asking children in those year groups to attend school on Mon, Tues, Thurs and Fri and to remain at home on Wednesday so that we can deep clean the school and ensure our staff have time to plan learning for the children who remain at home. After three weeks, we will review the plan, extend school to five days and invite in more children if everything is going well. We are not going to be opening Nursery until the end of June as our Nursery teacher is in New Zealand and is unable to fly home until the middle of June.

The children of key workers and vulnerable children will still continue to attend school every day, as they have been. They will also be able to attend school on Wednesday. ***If you are a key worker, and want a place for your child after half term, please contact us via email and we will get back in touch.*** We are not running any breakfast club or after school provision – please speak to us if this causes you a particular problem and we will see if we can help.

We have sent further information out to the parents of children in key year groups, outlining how things will work when children start to return. The letters are on our school website, if you would like more information. Some of the precautions we will be taking to minimise risk include:

- Limiting class sizes
- Keeping children in small groups and ensuring different groups do not mix
- Staggering break times, drop off and pick up times
- Regular handwashing and strict hygiene processes in place
- Increasing cleaning
- Keeping staff and children who display coronavirus symptoms at home

We all very much are looking forward to schools getting back to normal and all our children returning. Trying to reopen schools in the current climate is complex and challenging and we really appreciate your patience and understanding. We will continue to provide home learning for children who are not yet back at school while at the same time, teach the children who are back. We are also very aware that as more children return, we may need to adjust what we are doing and change plans.

Thank you for your continued support. Please send an email to admin@springfield.hackney.sch.uk if you have any queries.

Best wishes



Headteacher

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