Wednesday 20th May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you are all keeping safe and well and that your children are okay. We thank you all for your support and understanding at this time; we have a very special school family.

We realise we have not been in touch for a few days regarding potential phased reopening of school from the 1st June. This is mainly because we have been carefully reading the guidance from the Department for Education and the updates to this guidance that have also been issued. We are also working to complete a risk assessment with the Local Authority.

***Ahead of any reopening you will be provided with a full copy of this risk assessment and more detailed plans for NJS. There are a number of steps we have to take in order to agree this risk assessment and it is likely you will not receive this until into next week.***

In the meantime we felt it useful to write to you to advise you of a few things in order to help you to prepare and make decisions.

**Keyworker Families**

We are closed over half term to give our NJS staff time to refresh ahead of next half term. We are however, working with Newport Infant School to subsidise provision with Activ8. If you are entitled to this you will already have been contacted and arrangements will be in place for you. We hope the children enjoy the Activ8 offer.

Monday 1st June is a PD day however if you are on our current keyworker list and have been attending school during the last 8 weeks then you may attend on the 1st June and Activ 8 and some NJS support staff will take care of you on that date.

**Year 6**

We are anticipating, subject to national guidance, we may begin to take Year 6 pupils from the 2nd June. On this date we will accommodate the children whose parents have emailed me ahead of Friday 15th May to confirm that they have definitely decided they wish their child to return to school.

We are then potentially anticipating from Monday 8th June we will offer places to those families who were undecided if they wish to take a place. Then from Monday 15th June any other Year 6 families who wish their child to return to school.

*Please note that you do not have to return your child to school and we encourage respect for everybody’s personal decision on this matter. If your child is shielding or someone in the household is shielding the advice is that your child remains at home at this time.*

**All Children attending school from 1st June:**

* The Department for Education respect that we cannot guarantee social distancing in a primary school environment. Children may pass each other during times of movement, may need First Aid or comforting at a time of upset. We will remind children about social distancing throughout the day but are very aware the guidance supports that it cannot always be maintained.
* On arrival and throughout the day children must handwash. Facilities will be provided for each bubble and we will promote strict standards of hygiene.
* We appreciate Year 6 may have grown out of uniform and it isn’t fair to purchase new. Therefore we would request comfortable clothing with a school jumper if possible. Clothing must be freshly washed each day.
* All children will work in ‘bubbles’ of up to 15 children with two/three staff members. These ‘bubbles’ will not mix during the school day. We cannot guarantee children will be with their friends and are may not be with their usual teacher.
* There will be staggered start and end times to the school day. Guidance will be given for drop off and pick up arrangements. We will be recommending walking to school and only one parent per child.
* Unfortunately, staff will not be able to have face to face conversations with you. Communication should take place by phone or email.
* Children will play. Children will enjoy activity outside and whilst we will remind them about ‘distancing’ they will be children and will socialise.
* Children will need to bring a packed lunch or can order a packed lunch from the school kitchen. From the 8th June we will look to resume hot meals.

There will be more detail to follow and hope you appreciate there is a lot of steps for us to work through in order to provide you with that. Also please understand that this is an evolving position and we will continue to respect National guidance and work with our Local Authority.

We hope this helps you to understand a little more about our plans.

Best wishes

Mrs N Moody