



18th May 2020

Dear Y6 Parents/Carers of returning children,

On Wednesday last week we wrote to you asking you to complete a form to give us an understanding of the numbers of children that would be returning after May half-term. Many thanks for all that completed. We'd like to acknowledge as a school how difficult this has been for many of you and whatever your decision, we completely understand and respect it. We know each and every one of you will have your own personal circumstances, family context and child's personality to consider when making the decision as to whether to take up the place. Unfortunately, this is one of those decisions that you alone will have to make. In an effort to calm the situation the DFE has recognised the dilemma and made it clear that parents will not be penalised or fined for keeping their children at home. Rest assured as a school we are doing everything that is possible to keep your child safe.

In our letter last week, we highlighted that asking children to socially distance is very challenging and, whilst we will do our very best to help the children maintain social distancing, we cannot guarantee that they will not come into contact with other pupils. We did not highlight this to put you off from sending your child into school, we do this merely to make you aware of the reality. We'd like to reduce certain parents' fears and say, no one will be disciplined for genuinely forgetting to socially distance.

We have begun our preparation in earnest and have started to put together what shape the school will take after our start. All of the below is dependent on the '**5 key measures**' being met. (see newsletter for details). Below is some of the initial key information we can share at this point. All of our concentration will be based around safeguarding children and staff in school:

- School for **Y6 will begin on Wednesday 3rd June**, this is to ensure we are operating to the very highest standards
 - The two-training days are to make sure all staff receive two days of advanced training and preparation for what lies ahead
- The **school will receive a deep clean** in the half term holiday and classrooms will be reconfigured to maximise space
- **We currently have approx. 40 Y6 returning plus approx. 10—20 key worker and vulnerable children from Y3, Y4 and Y5**
 - The government guidance of approx.. 15 children per class we believe is not safe and we have drastically reduced class sizes. **We anticipate approx. 10 children per class**
 - This will mean that **not all returning Y6 children will be with their teacher**. We will liaise with teachers and our pastoral team to try as best to keep upset to a minimum
- **Pupils will lunch with their small group and play with their small group at playtimes** in designated parts of the playground
- Children will be limited (where possible) to interacting with their own group during the day
- **Start times and collection times will be staggered** to minimise the numbers of people arriving at school at any one time. Details to come out later this week
- Children will wash their hands as soon as they enter school and at multiple times throughout the day
- The curriculum will not follow normal procedures but instead be shaped around the following key principles:

- Reintegration and wellbeing
- Transition preparation for secondary school
- Learning Projects
- Basic skills
- **School uniform will not be required but we request that you send them in clothes that are suitable for both outdoor activities and physical education.** This is to limit the need to purchase uniform after the long school closure and allow frequent washing
- **The school office will remain closed to the outside.** Any contact must be made via e-mail to enquiry@rednalhilljuniors.com or via phone to 07985485137
- **Parents guidance:**
 - Maximum of 1 parent to drop a child/ren off. It's perfectly OK (in fact we'd prefer) for Y6 to travel on their own to school with parents' permission
 - If you have any worries or concerns, rather than seeking out a teacher/member of staff, please use the contact details above'. There will be SLT on the playground and a staff member ready to greet children but we are going to request that contact through this method is used as a last resort and if used adheres to social distancing measures.

Please note: if you have been accessing free school meal vouchers these will stop if your child returns to school.

Later in the week, we will write to you with further details including the drop of and collection times for your child should you choose to send them. For those parents choosing not to send their child we will continue with home learning.

Once again, thank you for your support at this time.

Stay safe. Stay well.

Mr. Jones