



The Best That We Can Be
Devonshire Primary Academy

Devonshire Road, Blackpool, FY3 8AF

Tel: 01253 478271

Email: admin@devonshire.blackpool.sch.uk

Website: www.devonshire.blackpool.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mr D.P. Simm BA (Hons) PGCE



Wednesday 20th May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

RE: UPDATE ON POSSIBLE REOPENING OF DEVONSHIRE PRIMARY ACADEMY

I am writing to update you about our current situation following the Government guidance on welcoming more children back to school.

Firstly, I want to thank all the staff in the school for their dedication and commitment during this difficult and challenging time.

Date for Potential Reopening to Year 1 and Year 6

As you are aware the Government are urging primary schools to invite a small number of pupils from EYFS, Year 1 and Year 6 back to school, if it is safe to do so.

The potential phased re-opening date for Devonshire Primary Academy will be **Monday 8th June 2020 at the earliest**, after the 2-week half term break. In the first instance we will be offering a safe return to **Year 1 and Year 6 pupils only**.

Nursery and Reception Aged Pupils

A decision has been made to delay re-opening for nursery and reception children. We are working hard to reduce the risk for this age group. As soon as this work is completed, we will be able to welcome back our youngest pupils.

Precautionary Measures

We are working hard to respond to the Government guidance to provide a safe and detailed plan that will enable some children from Year 1 and Year 6 to attend school from Monday 8th June 2020. **The children of Key Workers and our vulnerable pupils will also remain a priority at this time.**

The safety of our staff and pupils is paramount and, as a minimum, the following precautions we will be taking include:

- All school staff will be provided with appropriate guidance and support prior to the pupils returning
- Limiting class sizes to less than 50% of normal occupancy
- Increasing the number of entry and exit points to the building
- Staggering break times, and pick-up/drop-off times
- Supporting pupils in 'bubbles', with identified staff, classroom and hygiene spaces
- Increasing the cleaning routines
- Providing a specific 'safe' area, enabling anyone developing coronavirus symptoms in school to be isolated

- Ensuring that pupils and staff with coronavirus symptoms do not attend school

Teaching Groups

We are planning for the pupils to be divided into attendance groups and these will be further divided at school level into teaching groups, or 'bubbles'. At the current time, we anticipate that pupils in Year 1 and Year 6 will be able to attend for 2 full days per week, *maximum*, in the first instance. There is a strong possibility that your child will not be taught in their usual classroom by their usual class teacher.

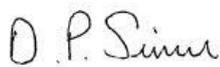
Supporting with School Planning

Remember, this is an offer for your child to attend school; it is not compulsory. If you believe your child would be safer at home with you at this uncertain time, then we will completely respect your decision. There will be no fines or penalties for not attending school at this time.

However, we do need to plan for those Year 1 and Year 6 pupils returning from Monday 8th June. Therefore, we will be **sending another ParentApp letter/form separately to Year 1 and Year 6 parents only**. We would ask that these parents complete the letter/form ASAP to indicate if they would like their child to return to school from Monday 8th June. As previously mentioned, we are only able to offer 2 days per week in the first instance.

Thank you for your continued support and patience during these unprecedented times.

Kindest regards,



Mr D.P. Simm
Headteacher