



The Best That We Can Be
Devonshire Primary Academy

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



Friday 15th May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

In an attempt to keep you as best informed as possible, please read overleaf an update from The Sea View Trust, which accompanies this covering letter, with regard to the reopening of schools in June 2020.

As I mentioned on Monday, we are working hard to respond to Government guidance to provide a safe plan that will enable some children from the identified year groups to attend school on Monday 8th June. The children of Key Workers and our vulnerable pupils will also remain a priority.

It is a very unsettling time for us all, but please be assured that we are going to be doing everything we can to make sure we are fully ready to receive more pupils, if it is safe to do so.

We will keep you updated with all our preparations and share this information with you as soon as possible, so you know what the school's reopening will look like in practice.

However, we are not going to be pressuring our families; indeed, you know your children and your personal situation best and so will be much better placed to make an informed decision about your child's return to school.

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

Best wishes,

Mr D.P. Simm
Headteacher

The Sea View Trust

Ewood campus, Clod Lane, Haslingden, BB4 6LR
Tel: 01706 214640



Chair of the Trust: Mr D Wallbank
Chief Executive Officer: Ms A Y Holdsworth
Company Secretary: Mrs N Wilkinson

14th May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

RE: POSSIBLE REOPENING OF TRUST SCHOOLS TO MORE PUPILS IN JUNE 2020

Firstly, we do hope that this message finds you safe and well and please be assured that we are thinking about you and your children during these challenging times. We appreciate the difficulties that you have had, and are still facing, in trying to juggle your own working lives, child care and the new demands placed on us all as a result of Covid-19 (Coronavirus).

As the Sea View Trust, our absolute priority will always be the safeguarding of our children and our staff. The health and safety guidance for schools is currently incomplete and understanding and implementing this advice, in full, will be essential before we can share any firm plans with you. We hope to have clarity from the Department for Education (DfE) very soon, meanwhile we continue to closely work with Blackpool and Lancashire Local Authorities.

In line with the DfE's guidance Sea View Trust schools are currently looking at building capacity and working with staff to identify how we might possibly be able to safely open to additional pupils, in the target age ranges, from the beginning of June. Some of our Trust schools (**Revoe Learning Academy/ Anchorholme Primary Academy and Devonshire Primary Academy**) have a two week half term and therefore any potential extension of the current opening arrangements would not be in place until the **week commencing 8/6/20** for these schools.

Parents will appreciate that government guidance is based on national modelling of an 'average' school with 'average' sized classroom and corridor spaces. Across the Trust we are calculating 'real' capacity based on the 'real' buildings in our school estate. We are also assessing staffing capacity because a number of our colleagues are unable to work, this is due to both the shielding directive and their own medical needs.

We want to be certain that, before we make a commitment to our families, we can ensure everyone's safety and deliver a supportive and robust school offer for as many families as possible.

Best wishes and take care,

Angela Holdsworth
CEO

Dave Wallbank
Chair of Trustees (Interim)