

ST. AUSTIN'S R.C. PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Growing in Faith Together

Prime Minister's announcement to reopen schools to more pupils

14/05/20

Dear Parents,

Following the recent government announcement to reopen schools to more pupils, I want to re-assure everyone that at St. Austin's R.C. Primary School we will endeavour to seek as much advice and clarification as possible in order to potentially consider this next phase.

The government has asked primary schools to open from 1st June 2020 for Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 and continue to be open for children of key workers and those identified as vulnerable by the government. Parents will not be penalised for non-attendance should they decide not to send pupils back at this time.

We need to begin to ascertain how many children, from these groups, we are likely to have in order to plan around staffing and space. Current advice states that there should be no more than 15 children in a group. Given that we are very unlikely to have a full workforce due to coronavirus related issues as well as managing group sizes, it cannot be guaranteed that all of the children will have their own teacher or learning assistant upon any proposed return.

Rigorous risk assessments are currently being collated in order to manage safety first. Based on numbers of pupils, staff and safety issues it may not be possible to have all of these groups returning together. We may need to implement a further phased approach. The start and finish of the school day will almost certainly have to be staggered in order to meet social distancing requirements. School will look very different when we welcome more children back to school but as always we will do our best to nurture and provide the best education possible.

Kindly complete *the return to school survey* if your child falls into one of the identified groups to let us know your intentions should school be able to welcome you back (click the appropriate link on the school's Corona-virus page).

Please complete by **Monday 18th May at 12:00pm.**

If you do not complete the survey we will presume that you do not wish to take up a place.

Many thanks for your continued support and understanding in these incredibly challenging times.

Take care and stay safe,
Mrs Wade

