Fourlanesend C.P. School



Providers of 'Good' education since 2007





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15th May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

As a headteacher I have to ensure that the school does what the government/Department for Education tell us to do. As many of you know, I don't always wholly agree with all of it, for example SATs and OFSTED, yet I do feel at FLE we do a good job of balancing these requirements and still ensuring that the children come first. I want you to know that this is the same approach that we are using when we are making plans to reopen the school.

As you are probably aware, the government have asked schools to reopen from 1st June for **children in FS, Y1 or Y6**. The difficulties we are facing are that the guidance and the interpretation of the guidance by the unions and the local authorities are changing daily. I can honestly say, every time I log into my emails I have another email on the subject. This makes it very challenging to put anything concrete in place at this point.

So what next?

IF your child is in **FS**, **Y1 or Y6** and you definitely want your child to return to school early in June, you need to contact me by **Wednesday 20th May**. The best way of doing this is to call or text me on 07973924674. Please ensure you give your child's name in the message. Alternatively, you can leave a message on the school answering machine as this is checked. Please no emails as they sometimes go into the spam box.

If your child is in one of these year groups and you have not replied, you will receive a call in the first week of June to check you still do not require a place. This is because of the rate of change right now.

What will happen in school?

The plan is that some staff will be in school from the 1st June to draw up risk assessments, make the changes we need to the layout and put workable plans in place to ensure when the school reopens; it is as safe as we can make it for the staff working in it and the children attending. These plans and risk assessments will be checked with the local authority and the governors. Only when we are assured that these plans and risk assessments are as safe as they can be and workable will we then contact the families.

We plan on a phased return, this means we will not admit all the children together. We will need to see how it is working and make any amendments to our procedures and risk assessments.

Once we know how many children etc, we will be able to give you more details such as start and finish times. It is not going to be the same times as the normal school day as we will need extra time for cleaning all the equipment used.

Of course, all of the above is subject to change, as this is all based on what we are currently being advised - how many times have I said that recently?

Finally, I would like to thank you all for your support both in the last few days that we were at school and since we have closed. This next phase I believe will be even more challenging. Hand on heart, I cannot promise any parent, carer or member of staff that the school is risk free. The decision on your child's return is yours. If you wish to discuss this, please don't hesitate to call me

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Rebecca Norton