St. Paul's CE Primary School



Huddersfield Rd Stalybridge Cheshire SK15 2PT Tel. 0161 338 2060 Email: admin@cdatstpaulsprimary.co.uk Web: <u>www.st-pauls-stalybridge.tameside.sch.uk</u> Headteacher Mr S Wright

21.5.20

Dear Parents

I hope you and your family are well. I am writing with some additional information following the announcement by the government for the phased reopening of schools for certain year groups of children in addition to key worker children. The year groups for prioritization for returning to school being, Reception, Year 1 and then Year 6.

On 8th June those children of key workers who have been attending school will continue to attend. Any further children are not likely to be admitted into school until Weds 10th June at the earliest to support preparation, relevant staff training and time to communicate information to you. This will not be all of the year groups the government identified, at this point in time. Any potential adding of year groups will be done in a phased manner.

Any decisions made are based on consultation with many groups, including yourselves, and guidance and advice that is coming to school, at different points in time, from the Academy Trust, the Local Authority and the Department for Education and the Government.

I would like to say a huge thank you to all the Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 parents who were able to complete the online questionnaire regarding schools reopening and sharing your views. It is clear that there are collective worries and concerns regarding any possible reopening. With many parents stating clearly that, they would not be sending their children back, even if a place became available to them. To be clear parents and carers will not be subject to a penalty notice for non-attendance, until further notice. I do appreciate that families have some very difficult decisions to make regarding both their children's education and the safety of their children and their wider family and their work commitments. It is a complex and exceedingly difficult choice.

There were 93 responses to the questionnaire from parents of children in the threeyear groups identified by the government. Ninety of you choose from the following





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for things, which you feel, are important to the safety of your child.

| ANSWER CHOICES | RESPONSES | |
|---|-----------|----|
| Clear markings at 2 metres apart will be visible for pupils on the path into school | 62.22% | 56 |
| Staggered times to arrive and leave school | 74.44% | 67 |
| Staggered break and lunch times | 81.11% | 73 |
| Pupils to stay in class groups no larger than 15 | 82.22% | 74 |
| Classrooms to be regularly cleaned | 94.44% | 85 |
| Pupils to wash their hands regularly | 96.67% | 87 |
| To not share equipment and resources | 70.00% | 63 |
| Pupils will enter and leave school by a one way system | 70.00% | 63 |
| Maintaining social distance in the classroom | 72.22% | 65 |
| Maintaining social distance in the playground | 63.33% | 57 |
| Total Respondents: 90 | | |

In addition to this you made many comments to express your concerns. The views you have shared, do feed in directly to the decisions that are and will be made, regarding any possible reopening.

Initial assessments demonstrate clearly to us that any start back will be a phased one. It maybe that not all year groups identified by the government will in fact return before the summer holidays. Any decisions made will be based on the need to support the safety and well-being of pupils, staff and parents and their wider families. It is likely that any possible return next half term would be based on first, Year 1 children returning at the earliest on June 10th, then after further risk assessment at a later date, we would look at Reception and then finally Year 6.

I will write further to all parents via the school email system (this will also be added to the school website). This will include further information of what that return will look like, so that all parents in school will have this information.





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We all understand that this is a very unsettling time for us all, but rest assured that we're going to be doing everything we can to make sure that any return is as safe as we can make it.

The whole team at St Paul's would like to thank you for your continuous support. We hope you can get to enjoy your half term with your children and have a holiday from home learning.

Stay Safe, Mr Wright







