



Communitas Education Trust

Tuesday 26th May 2020

Re: Re-opening of trust schools from 1 June onwards

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope that you are all staying safe and well and we want to say a massive 'thank you' for all of the brilliant work you have done with your schools to support your child's learning at this complex time.

This letter is to explain our plans for your children regarding the government's recent announcement that schools **may** reopen on 1 June for some children. Our re-opening plan is different to the current DfE plan. Our plan is based on the following factors and our main priority, the safety and wellbeing of our children, staff and communities:

- Without a vaccine, antibody testing and contact tracing, we cannot achieve zero risk. However, putting in place sensible controls and practices such as social distancing, hand washing and cleaning will reduce the risk of spreading the virus.
- Social distancing practices are difficult for very young children.
- Based on regular school-family communication and surveys, the majority of our children are continuing to learn at home. Some of our families and children are more in need than others of a return to classrooms.
- We will continue to support the children who are either 'vulnerable' or children of key workers for whom there is no other care available.
- It is important that we prepare for September and the likelihood that there will need to be significant changes to how we do things.

Based on this, children will return to school in the following order:

1. Children of key workers, vulnerable children and families of those most in need of support in our school communities.
2. Year 6 children. This group will find it much easier to understand and enact our key safety strategies (including social distancing) than our younger years.
3. Year 5 children
4. The next oldest year group. We will continue to work our way through the school year groups in age order.

Please be aware that we will monitor the situation daily. If we become aware of an increased unacceptable risk to the children and staff in an individual school, we will close that school. We know that regardless of the difficulties this might cause you, you will support these plans in terms of keeping your children and our staff safe.

Each school has an individual plan with procedures and practices relevant to their particular school, pupils and staff. You will receive a letter from your Headteacher and LGB about this prior to an invitation for your child to return to school. Please do not make any plans to return your child to school until you have officially received a letter from your Headteacher.

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The table below provides more information. The situation is constantly changing and we will continually review our plans and provide updates and further detail as soon as we can.

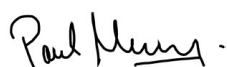
Phase	Notes
Phase 1	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Headteachers contact the families currently accessing childcare at Goose Green to inform them this will continue until Friday 5th June. • Headteachers contact families of those children who will be returning to school on June 8th
Week beginning 1 st June 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff training regarding safe practices, routines and learning preparation. • Final check that all safety policies, procedures and practices are in place at each school. • Children of Key workers and vulnerable children continue to access childcare services at Goose Green.
8 June 2020	Schools invite children who are in need of additional support back to school alongside children of key workers and vulnerable children already attending.
Phase 2	
	Headteachers contact families of year 6 children. Note, not all year 6 children will return at the one time. Your Headteacher will provide you the date that your child is invited to return.
From 15 June 2020	Year 6 begin back in schools.
Date to be determined by the Trust.	Headteachers will contact Year 5 and other years to invite children to return to school. This stage is dependent on the outcomes of earlier stages.

Please know that there will be no 'pressure' from schools to return your child to school. We are fully aware that the situation is different for each family. As we mentioned above, your Headteacher will be in touch about the specific arrangements at your school but the following is true of all schools:

- Your child will be taught with a much smaller group of children to maintain social distancing
- Your child may not be with their teacher; they may be with a different teacher
- Your child may not be in their usual classroom
- Play and lunchtimes will be staggered
- For most children, lunch will be eaten in classrooms
- Only one family member will be allowed on site each time when bringing children to school and when collecting and they will be expected to stand in line 2m apart from other parents.

We will keep you informed of any changes that we agree to our current arrangements in as timely a fashion as possible. Thank you again for your support. Know that your children are our key concern.

Yours sincerely,



Paul Murray
Chair of Trustees
Communitas Education Trust