

# ST. BEDE'S RC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Mrs E Alderson  
Head Teacher

15.5.2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope that this letter finds you and your families safe and well. After the announcement by the Prime Minister on Sunday evening that suggested the possible reopening of schools for Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 (if scientific advice permits) we thought it may be helpful to give families some idea about the current situation and what we intend to do in the next few weeks. The announcement was news to us all.

May we firstly take this opportunity to thank the staff team for all of their hard work and commitment over the last few weeks. With their support we have managed to keep school open to support the children of key workers and provided high quality home learning activities. We would also like to thank parents and carers for all of their kind messages and everything that you are doing to continue your children's education in very difficult circumstances and in most cases, whilst trying to work from home too. Finally, we would like to thank our children, who have adapted to this surreal and challenging situation we all find ourselves in so well.

We are currently consulting with staff, governors, the LA and parents of Reception, Y1 and Y6 to determine the best course of action for St Bede's. As you will be aware, there are lots of factors to consider in such a small school as ours and new guidance is being published on a daily basis at present. We are currently working through the advice and guidance given, risk assessments and the complex logistical aspects of this task in order to try to get this right and minimise the risk to all. The safety of your children is, as always, at the heart of every decision we make and therefore we are not rushing any decisions.

We intend to provide you with more details of what school will look like and what provision we can realistically offer for our pupils within our limitations and following government guidance. We are grateful for your patience and will inform you of our plans as soon as we have finalised them and agreed them as a Governing Body. Please be aware that any parent that chooses not to return their child to school will not be penalised for this.

We are aware that all of you will have different circumstances and beliefs regarding what is best for your family. From the consultation we have carried out so far, we can see there are a wide range of opinions and that the topic of returning your child to school is naturally incredibly emotive. Every parent has to do what they believe is right for their child at present in the same way as all schools will have different approaches in dealing with this almost impossible predicament we all find ourselves in.

Please continue to stay safe and take care.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads 'E Alderson'.

Mrs E Alderson  
Head Teacher

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads 'M Fingleton'.

Mr M Fingleton  
Chair of Governors