CHRIST THE KING CATHOLIC COLLEGIATE

A Multi Academy Company

Together as one community with Christ at the centre



Headteacher: Mrs D Mellor www.stmarycatholicprimary.co.uk 01782 619685 office.stm@ctkcc.co.uk St. Mary's Catholic Primary School Stanier Street Newcastle Staffordshire ST5 2SU

POSSIBLE RE-OPENING

Thursday 21st May 202

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you are all well and coping with the new phase of the lockdown. I am writing to you all to first and foremost thank you for your patience during this time of uncertainty. As you are aware the government have made the decision that they may re-open schools from the June 1st to some year groups.

Those year groups are Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6. The opening will only go ahead if the government's tests have been met. Key worker and vulnerable children from all other year groups will still be able to attend. Since this announcement we have been working hard on making sure that procedures, risk assessments and measures are in place to keep your child, staff and parents safe. These include staffing ratios, adjusting classroom layouts, outdoor space use, break times, increase in cleaning regime, start and end of the day arrangements to name but a few.

We will encourage children to social distance at all times however I feel it is important to point out that we cannot fully guarantee this, especially with our younger children as they may not remember to stay 2m away from their classmates or adults and they may not be able to gauge what 2m looks like especially when playing outdoors. Measures also include continuing the good hygiene practice that we have worked on with the children previously.

More details will follow on how we will manage the practicalities of each day to ensure the safety of your child and your family.

Thank you to those of you who have informed us of your intent to either request a place for your child in Nursery, Reception, Year 1, Year 6 or as a Key Worker or have decided to keep your child at home. A high volume of your calls have indicated your concerns that you feel that you worried that you would be fined if your child did not return to school if they were in one



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year groups which the government have allowed to return to school. This is not the case, although the government has mentioned the return of specific year groups <u>you will not be fined</u> if you decided that you do not want your child to return to school.

Many of you will be concerned or anxious about this potential return. As parents it is up to you to consider your individual circumstances. Ultimately if you continue to have concerns about the safe return of your children then the right thing for you to do will be to keep your child safely at home. I would want to reassure you. You trust us as a school. We value that trust.

All decisions made will be in the best interests of the children and families we care for.

If you have not already contacted the school to let us know of your decision about whether to return your child to school to the phased opening of the school then we ask that you please do so by the end of the school day on Monday 25th May. If you do not let us know of your decision by this date then we will assume that you do not require a place for your child as the school risk assessment is based around the number of children who will be returning to school.

I will be contacting you imminently and in length about the details of the guidelines, measures and routines which will be in place at St Mary's if the phased opening of the school is requested by the government.

I thank you for your support and your patience during this difficult time.

Mrs Mellor Headteacher



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