



Friday 15th May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

As you can imagine it is a challenging time for us as school leaders following Sunday night's announcement by the Prime Minister. It is expected that schools could start to re-open after half term, subject to satisfying the five tests as set out by the Government.

The Government expects children to be able to return to early years settings, and for Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 to be back in school in smaller sizes, from this point. This aims to ensure that the youngest children, and those preparing for the transition to secondary school, have maximum time with their teachers.

Planning is underway to organise the re-opening of the school, potentially from 1st June, whilst keeping our pupils, staff and families safe.

By returning pupils gradually, we will initially reduce the number of children in classrooms compared to usual and put protective measures in place to reduce risk. This includes:

- Protocols for the drop off and pick up routines
- Staggered lunch and break times
- Smaller groups of children to minimise mixing
- Each child having their own stationery pack where age appropriate
- Classroom layout being changed to promote social distancing where appropriate
- Utilising our outdoor space by introducing zones
- Frequent handwashing
- A one-way system around the building to reduce passing in corridors
- Unnecessary items removed from classrooms to facilitate thorough cleaning
- Ongoing cleaning throughout the school day

We encourage children in eligible year groups along with those in priority groups (key workers' children and those with additional needs) to attend school. Online learning will continue to be provided for those children in years 2, 3, 4 and 5 however the Government's ambition is for all primary school children to return to school before the summer for a month if feasible, though this will be kept under review.

We have uploaded the government guidance for parents and carers on to the school website within our parents' section, this gives further information and advice, particularly regarding clinically vulnerable children and families. Please read this and contact your child's class teacher if you have any concerns regarding your child's return to school during the summer term.

Once we have received more information we will be in touch with all parents prior to the half term holiday with further details.

We appreciate that this is an uncertain time for you all, please be assured that we are trying our very best to ensure that systems and structures are in place to safely welcome your children back to Swansfield.

Yours sincerely

Jenny Smith