



South Avenue Primary School

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Headteacher: Miss Samantha Fenn

11th May 2020

Dear Parents. Carers and Guardians,

Like me, I am sure that after listening to the Prime Minister's address to the nation last night, you are now trying to work out what is actually going to happen at South Avenue Primary School from the 1st June.

We have been informed that if the Government's 5 criteria are met, then schools will be expected to open for our youngest children in EYFS (YR) and Year 1 and our eldest pupils, in Year 6, from the start of Term 6, Monday 1st June. This was originally a Staff Development Day; however, if we are asked to open for these Year groups then the Staff Development Day will be cancelled. This forms part of the Government's conditional plan and will remain under regular review.

At the time of writing this, I have no other information. I eagerly await the update that will be shared with me at some point today. A phased return is no surprise, but as you can imagine, schools do not know what it will look like. Therefore, I ask that you be patient while we develop a way forward and an outline of how we, at South Avenue, may do this.

I know that many of you will want certain questions answered:

- ❖ Do schools have to implement 2 metres social distancing?
- ❖ Will children be taught in their own classrooms? With their own teacher?
- ❖ Will staff and children have to wear masks?
- ❖ Will children be allowed to play together and eat together?
- ❖ Will the children be safe?

I do not have the answers to these questions at present, but please be reassured that as soon as I have the answers and more information to share with you all, I will. Currently, our classrooms, with 2m social distancing will allow us to accommodate 7-8 children in a class. Some of our smaller classrooms will hold less. This means that one class will need four classrooms in order for the children to come in safely, along with at least 4 adults to teach the one class. Therefore, I need time with staff, to review how this will work and how we can keep both children and adults safe whilst in our care. Believe me when I say that your child's wellbeing is at the top of our agenda.

In the short term, South Avenue will continue to be open to our community key workers and will be here to support all other parents and children remotely, as we have been doing over the last few weeks.

The children have been greatly missed by all at South Avenue and although we want them all back, we can only do so when it is safe for us all. As soon as we know more, we will let you all know.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Cadwallader
Acting Head of School

Collaboration, Challenge, Community, Courage, Commitment, Creativity