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Headteacher: Mr J Parr BA Hons

13th May 2020

Dear parent/carers,

Re: Government's announcement regarding possible reopening of schools to more pupils from June 1st

We know you will have seen in the news that Primary schools may reopen to some year groups on 1st June **if** the Government thinks it is safe to do so at that time. The Government has also asked us to consider, at secondary level, how we might plan to do some face-to-face work with Year 10 at some point next half term.

We do not know for sure at this stage whether or not we will be able to do this - we have been asked to get ready to, but not actually do it yet. We are currently waiting for further guidance and clarification from the Government. They will announce, in the fullness of time, whether or not they wish us to go ahead.

We have not heard anything as yet about other secondary school year groups, so at the present time we are working on the assumption that they may not be back in school this side of the summer holidays.

As school leaders we are therefore planning very carefully. This is to make sure we are ready to safely accommodate some face to face sessions for Year 10, should they be able to go ahead. We very much hope they will be, but we will have to wait and see. We are planning a full range of safety measures that we will share with you nearer the time.

A real priority for us is making sure that the distance learning systems that we are currently using are as effective as possible for all year groups. This will continue to be our school's priority for the time being.

In the meantime, the school is still open **only** for vulnerable pupils and the children of critical workers. We know some employment areas are now slowly returning to work, but we are not in a position right now to extend places to other children until we receive further Government instruction.

We would like to thank you for your continued support in helping to make distance learning work. We need to keep going with this for a while yet it seems. You may be interested to hear that we have had a very small allocation of ICT (laptops) for the two secondary schools in the Trust from the Government. This was just 17 laptops between us, so it does not go very far unfortunately.

We have been speculating that this situation may run for some time. Distance learning, or maybe in the future this might be part time distance learning / part in school, will likely be with us for some time. We

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cannot accurately predict this, as we have never been in a situation like this before. If that is to be the case, we wondered if families would like us to explore obtaining some fit for purpose, reasonably priced ICT devices for purchase or lease by families? The devices we have looked at would integrate very well with our school systems and would be very easy for home learning, because it would be set up specifically for that and our specific school. It would also potentially be able to be used by pupils in school, especially valuable if social distancing arrangements mean the students cannot always be in front of their subject specialist teacher. Please could you complete [this very brief survey](#) by 09:00am on Friday 15th May to collect families' views about this? If there is sufficient interest we will explore this for you.

As always, if you have any questions, please contact us in the usual ways as listed on the website.

Kind regards,

John Parr
Headteacher