

23rd June 2020

Dear Parents, Carers and Families,

September Opening

The phased reopening of NEST schools started at the beginning of this month, with the successful welcoming of Year 6, Year 1 and Reception pupils in addition to the children of Key Workers.

We now have some guidance about reopening schools in September aligned to the change to the social distancing rule to 1m. We are very much looking forward to welcoming all pupils back to our schools at the start of the academic year and our ambition, in line with that of the Government, is to be fully open for all pupils from September. We do, however, recognise that there may be some restrictions still in place, so we are planning for a range of scenarios. Our priorities and planning remain focused on ensuring that all members of our community are kept safe, whilst providing the best educational experience possible for our pupils. We continue to monitor Government Guidance and advice from Public Health England.

As part of our phased reopening this term, we have taken several practical steps to mitigate the risk of COVID-19 and these form part of our detailed, dynamic risk assessments. In addition to usual hand washing facilities, alcohol-based sanitisers are available in every entrance and classroom. All rooms are regularly ventilated, and buildings operate one-way systems wherever possible. Children work in class bubbles and are taught good respiratory hygiene. A programme of heightened cleaning is in place in classrooms and public areas, including the cleaning of desks, door handles and other surfaces. Each of our schools has provided detailed information to all returning groups and the Trust risk assessment is on each school's website for your information.

In September, we will start our induction programmes for new Reception pupils; we look forward to meeting new families and supporting our youngest children as they join our school communities.

As you are aware, guidance is continually being updated, which may result in some adaptations to our plans. We will keep you informed of these as they happen. Please be reassured we will follow best practice and latest guidance as it emerges over the summer. Our plans about re-opening in September will be outlined in more detail as soon as we have more information.

Please be assured that our staff are working hard to ensure we can re-open safely in September and support the needs of all of our pupils and their families.

Kindest Regards,

Paula Farrow
CEO