

Cheswardine Primary and Nursery School

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Executive Headteacher: Mrs R Williams



Reach for the Stars

12th May 2020

Dear Parents / Carer

Reopening of Schools and Nurseries on 1.6.20

Firstly, I hope that you and all your family are well and coping in these strange times. Following the recent announcement from government regarding the reopening of schools I wanted to share with you some of our first thoughts and also begin to canvas your opinions on your children returning to school.

The government has recommended that we encourage Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 to return in the first instance making sure we have minimum physical contact between children and staff, regular hand washing, promotion of 'Catch it, Bin it, Kill it' for coughs and sneezes, and minimum physical contact with others in the classroom and during playtime. Any children or staff who show symptoms must be immediately removed and sent home and children need to stay in consistent groupings in order to reduce contact with others. Additionally, if any family member show symptoms the child must stay at home for 14 days. We would also need to stagger entrance and exit times in order to minimise adult to adult contact at the school entrances. Additionally, our class sizes need to be manageable and designed to promote a degree of social distancing across the school.

There are lots of challenges for us to face but over the next week we will be filling in a risk assessment and putting a plan in place to enable these year groups to return as soon as possible to the 1st June, of course this is only if the national risk factor allows this to happen.

When we return to school we will be focussed on the mental health and well-being of our children in the first instance with work on gaps and transition developed through the half term. We don't want to make the children feel scared but we will be teaching them about the importance of controlling infections and suitable hygiene. Trying to help them to understand the situation in the best possible way. There are some very good resources you can share with you children on <https://www.e-bug.eu/> which can help with this.

As parents you will of course be anxious about sending your children back to school especially as the message, to stay at home has been so clear over the lockdown. We will make sure you are fully aware of the plan when it is in place and to help us with this we would very much appreciate your input. No parent will be fined for non-attendance in the coming few weeks, but we have been asked to encourage a return to school if we assess it to be safe and we can assure you that the plan would reflect this emphasis on safety.

Please could you email your teachers through Dojo or Purple Mash or direct your email to admin@cheswardine.shropshire.sch.uk to let me know your feelings. **Primarily will you be sending your**



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child back to school or not or are you unsure and are there any measures you would like to see put in place to reassure you. Simply stating the Year group your child is in, whether you will send them back and anything else you would like to add would be very welcome.

I am very proud of the way the teachers have maintained contact with you all over the lockdown period so hopefully we can get as many responses through them or directly to admin as possible and get some understanding of your concerns and feelings as we put a plan together.

Take care and stay safe,

RWilliams

Rachael Williams (Executive Headteacher)



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