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Headteacher: Mrs. L. Ashton

**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2020**

Dear Parents/Carers,

As you are aware, I recently contacted you to share our intention for a phased re-opening of our school for Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 children from the 8<sup>th</sup> June. In the last few hours we have received an email from Durham County Council which advises schools that they now recommend re-opening no sooner than the 15<sup>th</sup> June.

"In view of the SAGE Report findings and because we wish to give the highest protection to staff, children and our wider communities DCC reiterates that it is not advising schools that they commence wider phased reopening on 1<sup>st</sup> June. The position of vulnerable and key workers' children remains the same. Government guidance now indicates that Secondary Schools should start to reintegrate Year 10 and 12 pupils from the 15<sup>th</sup> June and based on current information available to us, we believe this is a more realistic timeline for all Schools to work towards for expanding their numbers subject to Government scientific advice and individual school risk assessments." DCC

As a school we will obviously follow this guidance and adapt our phased re-opening plans, with the same arrangements as planned now beginning on the 15<sup>th</sup> June rather than the 8<sup>th</sup>. Whilst the date for re-opening has changed I feel it important that you as parents know, that the plans and arrangements that we have put in place, and were about to share with you, are rigorous and very thorough.

I want to reassure you that the safety of our children, those at home and those that have continued to attend school, staff and the whole school community is our main priority now as it has been throughout this whole lockdown journey.

The information shared by Durham County Council does not impact upon our key worker provision and this will continue as normal with the arrangements that we have in place. We will also continue to set online learning work for the children who are at home.

We know that this is a very difficult time where things are changing often and we fully sympathise with you if this information, released earlier today, causes you and your family any inconvenience.

I will be in touch with you to confirm further information over the next few days.

Thank you once again for your understanding and continued support.

L Ashton

Head Teacher