

Thursday, 14 May 2020



Dear parent carers

### Possible reopening of school to more pupils in June

As we continue to experience life in lockdown, I hope that you, your family, and friends have been able to stay well and stay safe.

Quite a lot has happened over recent days and I am writing to you to hopefully provide some reassurance and say something about our current position and thinking.

As I am sure you are aware, the Government announced that, if possible, early years and school settings would be encouraged to open for more children from 1 June 2020.

It would be normal to expect that some of you will be feeling a sense of anxiety about the many 'What ifs' related to the current situation, not least of all the pressure of having to make a decision about sending your child to school. We are still very much at a speculative stage and things may change from their current position. I would encourage you all to remain in the present and set your worries aside; in the knowledge that we will always put the safety of the children, parents and staff at Hunter's Bar first and foremost.

As a local maintained school, we take our lead from the local authority, who are working closely with the DfE to unpack the detail of the Government's proposals further. The decisions we are making are based on advice nationally and locally as well as considering a range of evidence from respected and trusted sources. In addition, your views and feelings are crucial in making a success of any return to school and we want to make sure that you feel included in the process.

Any reopening plans will need to reflect our primary concern of keeping everyone safe. Once everyone is clearer about the guidance around reopening, we will be able to share more details with you. I can let you know that some of the precautions we'll be taking include:

- Limiting class sizes
- Staggering break times, and pick-up and drop-off times
- Maintaining social distancing in and out of classrooms
- Increased cleaning
- Regular hand washing
- Keeping pupils and staff with coronavirus symptoms at home

In the meantime, the school is still open only for vulnerable pupils and the children of critical workers. We know some employers will be encouraging you to return to work, but we're not in a position right now to extend places to other children until we receive further government guidance.

**HEADTEACHER: MR MICHAEL WATSON**

**DEPUTY HEADTEACHER: MRS KELLY HERSEY**

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We'd like to thank you for your continuous support in helping your child learn from home. We will continue to make the best possible provision we can for the children already attending and for the children learning at home.

All of us at Hunter's Bar remain committed to children returning to their education as soon as it safe and practicable to do so. You have been incredibly supportive during the last two months and I feel confident that together we will meet the challenges ahead.

Yours sincerely

Michael Watson  
Headteacher

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