



Holly Hill
Church School

Life in all its Fullness

14th May 2020

Dear Holly Hill Families

With *Life in all its Fullness* taking a slightly different turn over the last couple of months, I do hope that this email finds you and your family well, and that you are managing to cope with the current situation as best as you are able.

I believe it is important to be open and transparent with you all about where we currently are at the moment, and it is for this reason that I want to share with you my initial thoughts following the recent Government announcements regarding the planned phased return to school should the rate of infection continue to decline.

At this point in time considerations are being made for Nursery and Reception children **only**. Key worker and vulnerable children will continue to be in school daily.

My priority has to be the safety of children, families and staff and as I am sure you will appreciate this is made more difficult by the many unknowns and uncertainties that still exist about the Covid-19 virus. I remain in the initial stages of processing the latest Government guidance and applying it to Holly Hill, considering the physical space we have for this increased number of pupils and the staffing that I have available. As a church school, it is only natural that we look after the emotional needs of staff, children and families and I am feeling the enormity of this task on my shoulders.

However, I promise you that I will do the very best I can for all concerned within the framework that I am given.

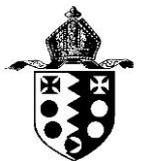
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Headteacher: Charlotte Taylor Deputy Headteacher: Mark Carr



This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment

These are some considerations that affect our decisions:

- School will not be as normal
- Groups of 15 or less may mean your child does not have their usual class teacher or TA and may not be in their usual classroom. How will this affect Nursery and Reception children's emotional well-being?
- Groups of children and their teachers cannot mix
- Children will not be socially distancing from those children in their group
- Some resources will probably need to be shared amongst the group?
- What will the timetable look like?
- How much increased risk are teachers at with 15 children? Is it possible for them to social distance? How do I manage their worries?
- Handwashing and anti-bac needs to be central to controlling the virus
- How do I give time for planning to teachers for their groups in addition to keeping their own class home learning needs met?
- Drop off and pick up arrangements must adhere to social distancing measures
- Cleaning needs to be more frequent
- How many parents want their child to come back to school under such different conditions? Will this change over time?

There are so many unknowns that we are working through but you need to know that if you feel that sending your child to school is not in the best interests of your family, you must do what is right and I will support you in that decision.

Your thoughts as parents and carers are crucial at this time, and will help us with the planning process; for parents of children in Nursery and Reception, we will be contacting you shortly to ask you to share your thoughts for keeping your children safe if a return to school is offered.

Until then, our thoughts and prayers are with you all as always and on behalf of all of the staff at Holly Hill we want you to know that we miss you all very much and send love to each and every one of our families.

Kind Regards