



## Phased return to the school

18<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Dear Parents,

It is with great excitement that we have started planning the reopening of our wonderful Holbeton school. As you can imagine, there are many issues that need resolving first. I am sure you have heard the latest updates from the Government over the last week and read Rob Haring's (Trust CEO) letter sent to you on Friday. The phased opening of the Trust Primary Schools will commence from the 8<sup>th</sup> June. We are awaiting further clarification on what this will mean and in preparation for any partial return of classes, we are carrying out our own full risk assessments and initial planning, before receiving further documentation from the Department for Education. This is to ensure the safety not only of your children and therefore yourselves but also the safety of our lovely staff.

All being well, this is the proposed plan as it stands today.

(Note: these decisions are Trust wide)

### **Educare**

Children accessing our Educare provision (Key Worker and vulnerable) will continue to do so irrespectively of other classes opening. If they are in one of the year groups on site, they will join their class group. Educare will continue to be offered 5 days a week from 9.00 until 3.00pm (except for half term week, when it will run on Wednesday and Thursday only). Until the 8<sup>th</sup> of June, this will continue at Yealmpton but on the 8<sup>th</sup>, it will revert to being held at Holbeton.

### **From June 8<sup>th</sup> onwards**

The initial plan is for the children in **Year 1 and Year 6** to begin a phased return to school.

Holbeton will be open to **Year 1 children on Mondays and a Tuesdays**

and for **Year 6 children on Thursdays and Fridays**

Assessments of social distancing measures will be carried out and as long as they are successful, and with a view on the wider situation, other year groups will begin to be phased in.

E-learning will continue to be set for all children although this may have to take a slightly different format as staff will be working in school.

School uniform need not be worn to help facilitate the wearing of clean clothes every day.



It is worth pointing out that school will of course be quite a different place to what it was before. The children will be seated at a distance from each other, no more sharing, no more group learning, no use of shared outdoor equipment, the removal of all soft toys and furnishings, adults also socially distancing from the children, no more assemblies, no more mixing with children in other classes - this is so much against how we have operated in all primary schools, let alone Holbeton. However, rest assured the staff and I are working to put together a plan as to what the new school day will look like and to take these necessary precautions and make them as child friendly as possible.

Further note that although the government are strongly recommending families to take up the offered places at school, they do also recognise that many families may not wish to return their children to a pool of wider 'contacts'. For this reason, they are respecting the rights of parents to keep their children home and attendance will not be pursued.

At this point I would also like to thank all our children, parents and carers for their patience as we consider the implications of the new guidelines and subsequent guidance from the Government. It is a dynamic situation in which we are not usually given much advance notice and we do our best to bring these decisions to fruition.

We understand how challenging and worrying the current situation is for everyone and we thank you all for your support during this difficult period.

Take care and stay healthy everyone.

Jackie Rundle  
Headteacher