

Byers Green Primary School

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Possible reopening of school to more pupils in June

Dear Parents,

We know you will have seen in the news that schools **may** reopen on 1 June to Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 pupils **if** the government thinks it is safe then.

The past couple of months have been a very unsettling time for us all as we have had to deal with a completely unprecedented situation which has affected all our lives. I want to reassure you that we will not be pressuring anyone to send their children to school – you know what's best for your child's health and wellbeing. It is also important to note that the government has been clear that parents will not be fined, and schools will not be held to account, for children's non-attendance during the summer term.

Any phased return has to be managed with extreme caution and care so that all necessary protective measures can be put in place. This may mean it becomes necessary for us to take a more gradual approach than the government has indicated.

While the government has said that it believes it may be possible to welcome back more pupils from 1 June, school leaders, in consultation with their governing bodies, will remain responsible for evaluating whether and how it might be safe to expand the number of pupils attending their schools, subject to a risk assessment based on the specific circumstances of the school. This may mean that it is not possible for our school to bring back all the pupils the government has indicated it would like to see back in school on 1 June.

I want to emphasise that the safety of our children, our staff and our families will remain paramount throughout our planning for a possible reopening. We will continue to provide you with updates when appropriate so you can make an informed decision when the time comes.

In the meantime, our school is still open **only** for vulnerable children and the children of critical workers. Until we are told it is safe to do so, we are unable to provide places for other children.

We would like to thank you for your continuous support in helping your child learn from home. For children who remain at home, we will continue to support you and your child with home learning, and meal support for those eligible.

If you have any questions, please contact school via email.

Take care and stay safe.

Mr Kirtley (Headteacher)