

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Dear Parent/ Guardian/ Carer,

Possible re-opening of School from 1st June –Nursery, Reception, Year 1, Year 6

I am sure you have all heard the news by now that the Government may re-open schools from 1st June for Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 **if** it is deemed safe to do so by the scientific evidence.

We are waiting for further guidance and clarification from the government right now, which will hopefully help us create an action plan for our **phased reopening**. We will share this with you as soon as possible so you know what the school's reopening will look like in practice.

It is a very unsettling time for us all, but be assured that we are doing all we can to ensure we are ready to receive these year groups **if** it is safe to do so in the coming weeks.

We are considering the safety of the children and staff of the school as well as for parents during drop off and pick up times. However, it has to be said that it would be near on impossible to implement social distancing in schools especially for nursery and reception in particular so our steps to safeguard pupils and staff must be considered carefully in how we can minimise the risk for all involved.

The guidance does state that families will not be penalised for not sending their children in which is good news –so whether you do or do not send your child –it will be parental choice and as a school, we will support your decision as best we can for as long as we can.

It may also not be appropriate for your child to be in school e.g. they have a letter from the GP and should be shielding –this too needs to be taken into account; every family situation is unique and you need to make decisions based on your own family's needs. We will share the plan of next steps and what we have in place to safeguard your child once it is finalised and approved. You can then make your decision as to whether your child will attend or not.

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 are not in a position right now to extend places to other children until we receive further Government guidance.

Thank you for your continued support in helping your child learn from home. The teachers enjoy seeing your work/activities on SeeSaw, so keep this up for now.

If you have any questions, please contact office@stmarysbatley.co.uk where your query will be forwarded to an appropriate member of staff

Wishing you all continued good health over the next few weeks.

Best wishes
Mrs N Grant



