

**Cockfield Community Primary  
and Nursery School**  
**Cockfield**  
**Bishop Auckland**  
**County Durham**  
**DL13 5EN**  
Headteacher:  
Miss Heatherington  
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Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Following the government statement regarding the phased opening of schools, you will be aware that schools **MAY** reopen on 1<sup>st</sup> June to Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 pupils if the government thinks it is safe to do so.

We are currently waiting for further guidance and clarification from the government and Durham Local Authority, which will hopefully help us create an action plan for our possible phased reopening. We will share this with you as soon as possible so that you know what the reopening of the school will consist of. Obviously it is a very unsettling time, but rest assured that we are going to be doing everything we can to make sure we are ready to receive these year groups, **if it is safe for our school to reopen in the coming weeks.**

School will look and feel very different from what the children are used to:

- Drop off and pick up times will be staggered
- Lunchtimes and playtimes will be staggered
- Children in each year group will stay in a small group with a teacher for the whole day – this may not be their normal teacher
- Teachers will have to teach from a distance and children will have to remain at their desks
- First aid and intimate care will be very difficult to manage
- Children will have to socially distance
- Children will have to wear a different set of clothes each day

However we are also not going to pressuring anyone to send their children to school as you know your children and their personal situation best. We will keep you updated with all our preparations for making sure the school is as safe as possible, so you can make an informed decision; **you will not face repercussions for not sending your child to school.**

It would greatly help our planning if we were to know the numbers of children who are likely to return to school if their year group is allowed to.

**FOR THIS PURPOSE WE ASK THAT YOU REPLY TO THIS TEXT BY TUESDAY AND TELL US WHETHER OR NOT YOU INTEND TO SEND YOUR CHILD BACK TO SCHOOL.**

In the meantime, the school is still only open 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 to extend places to other children until we receive further government guidance.

We would like to thank you for your continued support in helping your child to learn from home. Please do continue to do what you can and stay in touch with us about how your child is doing.

Take care and stay safe.

Yours sincerely

Miss K Heatherington

Headteacher