

# ST ANDREW'S CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

NUTTALL LANE RAMSBOTTOM BURY LANCS BL0 9JD

**Headteacher: Mr D Marsh B.A. Hons NPQH**

**Deputy Headteacher: Mr J Brown B.A. Hons**

**Telephone: 01706 822649**



Dear Parents and Carers

22.05.20

## Update on reopening of school

You will be aware of the recent announcement by Government to ask all primary schools to reopen to Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 from 1st June and no doubt will have seen the response from Bury Council.

As a Governing Body we will work within the guidance provided by the Local Authority and so confirm that St Andrew's will NOT open to the wider group of pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 from the 1st June but will remain open, as now, to pupils of key workers and to vulnerable pupils.

As Chair of Governors I have held regular discussions with Mr Marsh regarding the planning and preparation for the return of some pupils to the school this term as well as being updated on the current provision for children of key workers and those considered to be vulnerable.

As you would expect a considerable amount of planning has already taken place to consider how best the school could manage the return of additional pupils. This has taken into account a number of issues including how many classrooms would be required, the level of staffing needed for the number of pupils expected to be taught in smaller groups, movement around the school and the provision of additional hand washing and sanitising facilities. We have also discussed the need for staggered start, finish and break times.

Whilst our ambition is that, in line with the Government's guidance, pupils should return on a full time basis and not on a rota or part time system our overriding concern will be to ensure the safety and wellbeing of pupils, staff and the wider school community and this will ultimately determine the arrangements agreed by the Governing Body and the timing for the return of pupils.

The Governing Body will be meeting on Thursday 4th June to review further guidance from the Government, Local Authority and Unions, and further discuss the preparations that have been put in place to consider when, or if, the school will reopen on or after 8th June. Following that meeting we will ensure that parents are updated on the situation as soon as possible and in particular those parents who may be directly affected by any reopening plans that are agreed.

We are mindful, as parents, employees, employers, key workers and Local Authority representatives ourselves of the real impact of the school closure on families. This is why we wanted to update you on the current situation and to assure you of the preparation work that is being undertaken to enable us to open the school to a wider group of pupils as safely and as soon as is practical.

Whilst our immediate focus has been on the preparations for those Year groups likely to return to the school we are also aware that most of you as parents or carers have been coping with home learning with your child(ren). We do appreciate that some of you may be feeling stressed

or overwhelmed by everything that is happening but we would like to remind you that we are not expecting you to replicate everything that would normally happen in school! The resources that the school has provided, along with the Oak Academy and BBC Bitesize resources, plus many others available on the internet, are there to assist you and provide something to base activities for your child(ren) on. The resources from the school are being reviewed and revised and these will be available for parents to access to use after half term. Please remember that each school is developing its own approach to provide materials and at St Andrew's Mr Marsh and the staff have sought to develop resources that will work for all our parents. If you have particular questions about resources for your child(ren) please do not hesitate to contact Mr Marsh to discuss these.

We would like to thank you for your support and co-operation throughout this period and thank our Headteacher and staff for their hard work and willingness to adapt to a changing situation. Thank you also to those parents of pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 who responded to the recent survey to ascertain whether your child would be likely to return to school when it opens to these wider groups of pupils.

We do appreciate that many parents will be anxious about this, but we would like to reassure you that the Governing Body will do everything it can to support the school Leadership Team to ensure the safety and wellbeing of your children, whilst following and applying current guidance, when they do return to school.

Yours sincerely

Robert

Robert Ruston  
Chair of Governors

On behalf of St Andrew's CE Primary School Governing Body



**dyslexia aware school**

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