

Beckley C.E. Primary School  
Main Street,  
Beckley, Rye  
East Sussex TN31 6RN  
Headteacher – Mr Simon Thurston



Tel: 01797 260324  
email: office@beckley.e-sussex.sch.uk  
web: www.beckley.e-sussex.sch.uk

13 May 2020

Dear Parents,

**Re: COVID-19 Update for School**

I am sure you will have seen or heard the recent announcement from the Prime Minister that the Government are planning to begin a phased return to school, if the circumstances allow, from Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June. It is important to stress that their plan is very dependent upon the ability of the country achieving the various tests used to measure the degree to which the COVID-19 virus is still spreading. If these 'tests' are achieved, the government will be expecting children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 to begin a 'phased return to school.'

We are still waiting for further detail from the DfE and the Local Authority about how this will look, however we have made some very tentative plans already. Please be aware that these might change as we receive more guidelines:

- Our intention is to have a rota where only parts of a single year groups (approximately 6 – 8 pupils) will be on site at any one time, each day. This means that **children will not be in school every day**. We will also have our small group of children whose parents are critical workers on site as well
- Where possible (eg: sitting in classrooms), maintaining a 2m distance from others should be applied, however the Government recognise that there will be situations in school when it is not realistic to maintain this
- In these situations, we will:
  - re-organise arrival and pick-up times to avoid potential congestion
  - stagger playtimes and lunchtimes
  - create a 'one way' route around the school for pupil and staff movement to 'flow' in the same direction (similar to most supermarkets)
- We will also:
  - maintain a high frequency of hand washing every day
  - reduce the use of equipment wherever possible, and thoroughly clean equipment used every day
  - continue to clean all surfaces and door handles, etc. every day

The rules about children of key worker parents and children identified by the government as being vulnerable have not changed, and so provision for these pupils will still be in place.

We all have many, many more questions requiring answers in order for us to provide a more detailed and definitive plan, but I am sure you will appreciate that we are simply not in a position to offer more detail to you at the moment.

I have asked parents of children in YR, Y1 or Y6 to complete a short questionnaire about returning to school, as this will help with our planning. Thank you once more for your incredible support, encouragement and patience over these past weeks – myself and all the staff at Beckley really do appreciate everything you are doing.

Many thanks,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'S Thurston'.

Simon Thurston  
**Headteacher**