

St Mary's Catholic Primary School

Headteacher: Mrs Helen Armstrong
Diocese of Plymouth

13th May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you all know the government has made it clear that opening of schools from June will only be possible if there are indications that coronavirus infection rates continue to decline.

In order to prepare for this we are rapidly trying to put together a plan which would enable us to make an offer to parents of children in Foundation, Year One and Year Six. We are currently measuring rooms, removing furniture, and calculating how many children could safely be introduced back into school. We are also working with staff to ensure their safety and finding out who can return to school to support our offer. Class sizes will have to be reduced so the children may not be being taught by their teacher and we are being advised to introduce staggered start times and endings.

The government are encouraging you, as parents, to send your child(ren) back to school. However, parents will not be fined for non-attendance at this time.

If your child has a sibling in another year group other than Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 he/she will only be able to attend if you are a critical worker or if your child is part of a vulnerable group.

Guidance for parents and carers can be found at:

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/reopening-schools-and-other-educational-settings-from-1-june?utm medium=email&utm source=govdelivery

To assist us in our planning please could you complete the slip below which indicates whether you will be sending your child back to school. I would be grateful if you could **reply by midday on Friday 15**th **May** at the latest please.

I would urge you to continue to not to make <u>any promises</u> to your children about when school will return. Naturally, we all want to be back together, however, <u>I insist safety must come first</u>.

Thank you as always for your continued support and encouragement and please rest assured that we continue to stand with you at this time.

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