



CHURCHFIELDS PRIMARY SCHOOL



School Street, Chesterton, Newcastle under Lyme, Staffs ST5 7HY

Tel: 01782 567430

Email: office@churchfields-chesterton.staffs.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs D Beardsmore BA (Hons)

Deputy Headteacher: Mrs C Pattison BA (Hons)

"Be the best you can be"

Part of the Collective Vision Multi-Academy Trust

Friday 15th May

Dear parent and carers,

I hope that this letter finds you well.

I wanted to write to give you an indication of where we are as a school in light of the Government's announcement to start a phased reopening of primary schools from June 1st 2020 at the earliest. As I have said previously, there is no change to the current guidance. We will continue to provide care for the children of those parents whose work is critical to the COVID-19 response and those that cannot be safely cared for at home.

The Government has provided their advice, but as usual, this needs to be interpreted into our school setting. The current guidance is suggesting that if the Government feel it is safe to do so, then schools should begin to make plans for the return of nursery, reception, Yr1 and Yr6 children, no earlier than 1st June 2020.

There are many considerations that need to be thoroughly investigated and can I assure you that myself, the senior leadership team, alongside Collective Vision Trust, have begun our detailed discussions to initiate our plans towards a phased return, based on the latest Government guidance. We are working our way through staffing considerations, then will look at building changes and adjustments, timings of the school day and finally look at what we need to teach. These plans will not be finalised or shared publicly until we are sure that we have the right plan for Churchfields. Please be reassured that we will not reopen for the specified year groups until we are 100% prepared and our plans are based on what we as a school community need and want whilst ensuring that the school environment is as safe as we can make it.

I want you to know that we miss you and your children, and we do want to welcome them back to school as soon as it is safe to do so. We have all enjoyed looking at the learning that your children have completed at home and thank you for all your hard work in supporting them. We will continue to send work home for your children during this period.

The speculation in the press and on social media will now be about how schools can safely open and this will only intensify over the next three weeks. As always, at Churchfields, we take the view that we need to consider all of our actions and communications to parents and children carefully, before making decisions. These decisions will always, first and foremost, take into account the welfare and well-being of children, staff and parents in our school. Once the school has made any decisions, we will let you know through our usual channels.

Until then, please try not to worry or compare us to other schools – we are unique and will make decisions that suit our community. We will continue to keep in contact with you and continue to support each other in these difficult and uncertain times.

Thank you for your continued support,

Diane Beardsmore
Headteacher