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13.05.20

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope this letter finds you all well.

As you are aware from the Prime Minister's briefing on Sunday evening and subsequent information that has been published, schools have been told to prepare to open to Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 pupils from 1st June 2020 **if** the government thinks it is safe. We understand that there may be a lot of concern and anxiety around the lack of concrete information and planning behind the details of the Government road map to remove the measures around social distancing and, in particular, what this may mean about some of our children returning to school.

As the government's proposals emerge and become clearer, we will make sure that we keep you updated as far as possible. However, in the interim period, please be assured that whatever happens, every decision will be made based around ensuring that the safety of our children and staff remain our highest priority. As a school we will look at creating as many strategies and plans over the coming days and weeks as we can to make things as safe as is physically possible. We understand the view of parents and carers who would prefer to keep their child at home and educate them in the same way as you have been doing over the past seven and a half weeks. The government has stated that you will not be fined or prosecuted for non-attendance at school at this time. The staff will continue to work hard to provide educational materials to use at home if you feel that your child and family will be safer doing this.

If your child is clinically extremely vulnerable, or living with someone who is in this group, they should not come back to school and should continue home learning. If your child is clinically vulnerable (but not clinically extremely vulnerable), you should follow medical advice to decide if they should come back to school. Please refer to [government guidance](#) for further details of these groups.

In the meantime, our school remains open as it has been over the past 7 plus weeks, for the children of key workers and children who are deemed vulnerable. We are extremely grateful to the staff who have worked tirelessly, both in school and at home, supporting the education of all of our children.

With all of this in mind, as part of our planning and risk assessment for the possible wider opening of school in the near future, it would be really helpful if you could please let us know if you are intending to send your child back to school when we reopen from the 1st June.

Please could you email the school staindropce@durhamlearning.net by **Friday 15th May** with your child's name and a simple: Yes or No along with any comments you feel would be helpful

We do very much look forward to welcoming you all back but only when the time is right for all of us, following the guidelines offered from the government and the DfE and, of course, when school has been made as safe as is physically possible for everyone.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Kind regards,

S. Whelerton and the staff of Staindrop CE Primary School

