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Head Teacher: Mr S Whelerton Deputy Head Teacher: Mrs J Boyd

27.05.20

Dear Parents and Carers of children in Nursery, Reception, Year 1, Year 6 and those attending essential childcare,

As you are aware, we have planned to use a phased return for some pupils over the next couple of weeks. This measured and cautious approach is to ensure that the safety of pupils and staff remains our top priority. We have recently received new government guidance which, along with higher than anticipated pupil numbers, has resulted in us needing to change our initial reopening plan. In order to carry out a detailed reopening plan (including risk assessments and increased preparation of the building), we will not be opening to children in the key year groups until the week beginning **8<sup>th</sup> June**.

The details are:

- **Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June – Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> June** School is open to children of keyworkers only (School closed for deep clean on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June)
- **Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June** - School opens for **Nursery and Reception** pupils to return
- **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June** School opens for **Year 1** pupils to return
- **Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June** School opens for **Year 6** pupils to return

We will still be open for vulnerable pupils and children of keyworkers as usual throughout this period. Please could parents who require this care **reconfirm** which days they need during the weeks beginning 2<sup>nd</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> June. Please note that the school is closed for deep cleaning for a full day on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June. Please note that the drop off and pick up times for essential care are slightly different from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June (see revised 'Safe Return to School Parent Guidance' for details).

We apologise for any inconvenience this will cause. We do not want to rush into a full reopening as we need time to embed the many changes needed to maintain everyone's safety before all four-year groups are in school together.

In consultation with the Church of England Diocese, **we are going to finish the school week for all pupils at Friday lunchtime each week** starting the week beginning 8<sup>th</sup> June. This will allow for the staff to have dedicated time to plan for lessons and to support home learning/communication. It will also enable a deep clean of the building, thus reducing any further disruption.

Please see the revised 'Safe Return to School Parent Guidance' for further details of the above.

It would help us immensely if your child is going to return, that they do so from their allocated start date. If parents decide to return their child later in the term, it could prove extremely difficult for us as we have been advised to avoid changing groups wherever possible. For health and safety reasons, children returning later than the rest of their year group may result in us having to start a separate new group for them and also arrange extra staffing for this group. It is likely that we will not have any further capacity to facilitate any new groups. **Please could any parents who have changed their mind about their child returning to school on the original date, inform us via email by the end of this week (29<sup>th</sup> May).**

As the government guidance is constantly changing, these plans will be reviewed on a regular basis. **Please not that the return to school dates for pupils may change at short notice.** In the meantime if you have any concerns or questions, please feel free to contact the school.

Thank you again for your support and understanding during these times.

Kind regards,

S. Whelerton and the staff of Staindrop CE Primary School

