

12 May 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

**Re: Government Update**

You will no doubt be aware of the government's announcement last Sunday about the easing of lockdown restrictions. This was followed by the release of further information from the government yesterday.

As a result, I wanted to clarify for you the arrangements that are currently in place and the changes that will potentially be made in respect of educational provision nationally.

**Currently**

There are no changes yet in respect of which pupils may attend school. If your child currently attends school, they should continue to do so and they will have access to school for the remainder of the summer term. This provision has however not yet been extended. The list of critical workers as defined by the government, is available here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

**1 June 2020**

The government has asked schools to plan to re-open on 1 June 2020, for primary aged children in Nursery (if the school has this provision), Reception, Year 1 and Year 6. However, they have made it clear that these plans may be changed, subject to infection rates nearer the time. Additionally, individual school circumstances may mean that opening for all three/four year groups at the same time may not be possible if social distancing is to be observed. It is also hoped at this time that Year 10 pupils will receive some face-to-face support, although not on a full-time basis.

**Prior to the End of the Summer Term**

The government has stated that, dependent upon the risk of virus spread, they would ideally like all primary pupils to have had up to a month in the school setting before the summer break. This may be challenging in Leicestershire, where the summer term finishes before most of the rest of England.

Please be assured that all schools within Embrace Multi Academy Trust are working together to plan on this basis. We believe that the safety of your children and members of staff must be our priority and this is leading our thinking.

Once we are in a position to share further information with you, we will do so immediately. However, we are expecting more information from the government during this process. You can help us with our planning in two ways:

- 1) Please avoid making requests for further information on re-opening at this stage, so that we can focus on our planning. We have access to the same information as yourselves and need time to plan.
- 2) Please do not raise your expectations, or those of your child, around a specific start date, regardless of your child's year group. National or local conditions may mean that plans have to be flexible.

Thank you for your support during a very challenging period for all of us and I hope that you and your family are remaining safe and well.

Yours sincerely



Mr Chris Southall  
Trust Leader