



LIONEL WALDEN PRIMARY SCHOOL



Headteacher - Mrs Sally-Anne Barnard-Taylor

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Dear Parents/Carers

I hope you are well. As you are aware, the government instructed schools to partially reopen at the beginning of June for specific year groups (Pre-School, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6) where possible. Children of essential workers have been able to attend school throughout the period of closure but only if absolutely necessary (if there was no other adult at home). The government's plan was to have all pupils back in primary schools for four weeks prior to the summer holiday.

I am writing to confirm that there will be no second phase of reopening school this term. The government has recognised that primary schools do not have the space or the required level of staffing to invite all pupils back into bubbles (a maximum of 15 children in each) whilst being able to maintain social distancing measures. We are, however, currently looking at 'topping up' the Reception and Year 1 Bubbles. Places are very limited as we will not exceed the recommended maximum number of pupils per classroom. All parents of the eligible year groups were initially offered a place for the beginning of June and, as per my letter of 19th May, further places would only be offered towards the end of June, if capacity and government guidance allowed at this time.

The expectation now is that the government will advise schools on how to plan for September. It is hoped that all other year groups (currently Years 2, 3, 4 and 5) will be able to attend school along with everyone else in the new academic year.

Again, I thank you for your continued patience and understanding. It is extremely disappointing that we are unable to accommodate everyone in school but we have to adhere to guidance and ensure everyone remains as safe as possible. I know how difficult it is for everyone - if you require any further support in any way, please do contact me via the School Office.

Best wishes

S A Barnard-Taylor

Mrs S A Barnard-Taylor
Headteacher

