



Tameside Metropolitan Borough

Mottram C.E. (Aided) Primary School

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May 18th, 2020

Dear parents/carers

Re: possible opening of school to more pupils in June

The LA met on Thursday and have issued this letter.

You are likely to have seen in the news that schools may open more widely from 1 June to nursery, reception, year 1 and year 6 pupils **if** the government thinks it is safe then.

Since the announcement, we have been receiving further guidance and clarification from the government and will continue to do so for some weeks. This will help us create an action plan for our phased return of eligible pupils from the beginning of the term on 8 June. We'll share this with you as soon as possible so you know what the school's wider opening will look like in practice, as it may involve small group attendance, staggered days or weeks and different start and finish times, especially at first.

It's a very unsettling time for us all, but please rest assured that we're going to be doing everything we can to make sure we're ready to receive eligible children if it's safe to do so in the coming weeks.

We will keep you updated with all our preparations. In the meantime, the school is still open **only** for vulnerable pupils and the children of critical workers.

I would like to add how incredibly frustrating this whole process is in terms of what re-opening may look like for Mottram. As you know the Government want Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 in school in classes no more than 15, this would be impossible at Mottram, if all children were to return, as we only have 5 classes available. It would also mean that your child may not be taught by your teacher. I do need to make you aware that we cannot physically fit 15 children in a class, they have been measured and we can get 8 children in the upper classes with a 2 metre distance. I also need to balance the need for children to return and the implications this will have on those children who do not return to school and their continuing online/home education as if your child's teacher is in school teaching they may not be able to continue to provide work for those at home.

I know since the announcement you will have had a lot of time to think about whether you want your child to return to school, it will not be an easy decision and you will not have made it without taking lots of other factors into consideration. Unfortunately, it is a decision only you can make for your child. Guidance from Government is changing daily, and it is confusing for all involved, but we are fighting a virus that we cannot see.



I now need to ask those parents and carers of Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 to please contact admin@mottram.tameside.sch.uk and let us know if you want them to return to school in June. Until I am fully aware of the numbers wishing to return to school, I cannot make any further plans. Please inform school of your intentions, either way, by 12pm on Wednesday 20th May. Please rest assured if you decide not to send your child to school you will not incur a fine.

We would like to thank you for your continuous support in helping your child learn from home. We will need to keep going with this for a while yet, so please do continue to do as much as you can and stay in touch with us about how your child is doing.

Warm regards and stay safe

Mrs Scattergood

