



Moss Bank Road, Manchester, M27 9XB

Telephone: 0161 921 1098

Email: wardley.ceprimaryschool@salford.gov.uk

www.wardleyce.co.uk

12th June 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Re: Wider school re-opening letter 3

Hope you are all safe and well.

I am writing to provide you with an update on the current situation in school.

We are currently running five pupil bubbles. This is in line with our risk assessment and the principles that we outlined in our previous wider re-opening letters and plans. Three of these bubbles are for the children of key workers. We continue to provide critical worker cover in school for everyone who requires it. Two of the bubbles are for our Y6 children. They are one of the priority groups identified by the government as part of the wider re-opening programme. We will not be opening any more bubbles as we do not have the staff or suitable space to run them. However, we will continue to fill the places that we have within our existing bubbles.

We are set to welcome back more key worker and Y6 children next week. We have also been able to accommodate the return of a limited number of children from our Reception and Y1 classes, two of the other priority groups identified by the government for return. They will occupy some of the spare places that we have within our EYFS and KS1 key worker bubbles. These children are those who indicated that they would like to return to school in the survey that we ran prior to the Whit holiday.

The return of these children means that we will be operating close to our maximum physical capacity. There are only a few spaces left within the bubbles for Y6 and key worker children. We cannot go any further with our wider re-opening.

The difficulties faced by schools in facilitating the return of any other year groups was recognised by the government in their announcement this week. Operating in limited bubbles of socially distanced children, whilst maintaining the safety and integrity of the group, is massively labour intensive. All our staff who are able to come into school and support the effort are doing so. Those staff who are not working within the building are providing vital online learning and support to the school from home. **To be absolutely clear – we will not be able to offer any more spaces to children other than a very limited number of key workers and Y6 at the moment.**



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This will, of course, be a disappointment to staff, parents and children alike. We wish we could safely do more, but given our circumstances and the guidance we are following, we are doing everything that we can. We are very aware that it means that for many of our children they will remain home based for the time being. We have set up a dedicated on-line learning team to continue to provide structured home learning activities for them. We will continue to review this home support, together with our plans and risk assessments for our school based provision, on a regular basis.

At present, we do not know what re-opening will look like in September, nor do we have any information on arrangements for summer provision in Salford. Please be assured that as soon as we have any more information concerning any of these issues we will communicate it with you as soon as we are able.

Our key aim during this time is to ensure that all our pupils and their families are as safe, well and happy as possible, and we will do everything we can to support this for those both in and out of school.

I want to thank you for all your ongoing support in what is, and continues to be, a very difficult time for everyone.

Yours sincerely,

Mark Foster,

Head teacher.

