



## HIGH HESKET C of E SCHOOL (VC)

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Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2020

Dear Parents,

It has been an incredibly sunny half term break and I hope the children have enjoyed this beautiful weather; it has been glorious! It was wonderful to see so many of the children join in with our Zoom sessions just before term ended and I know the staff found the experience incredibly positive and emotional. We are hoping to be able to repeat the experience in the coming weeks.

### Phased school reopening

As you will have seen from my lengthy letters before half term, we have been preparing to welcome back groups of children as part of the government's plans for wider reopening of schools. Unfortunately, the government guidance of how this is instigated raises significant challenges in terms of space and staffing, so we are doing what we can to reopen in the safest way possible for both staff and pupils. At the moment, our approach is as follows:

- We are opening on **Thursday 4th June 2020 to the children of Key Workers and other priority groups only.**
- We will review capacity and risk once we have opened to the above groups and then begin a controlled phased return of other year groups as outlined in the government plans. More details about the first year group to return will be coming out soon.

Thank you to the Key Worker families who have returned their booking forms. Staffing and groups have now been organised and you should receive a confirmation email with further details by 5pm tomorrow.

### Home learning

Our work in school will echo the home learning materials and we will continue to upload these on a Friday for the upcoming week for those accessing them from home. Due to the changes coming up in terms of school returns, the materials that we use as our foundation are beginning to build in a wider range of wellbeing activities. We feel that this is wholly appropriate as the return to school will be a significant challenge for many children due to the unfamiliar routines, rooms and staff that they may be assigned to. These materials will also be hugely beneficial for the pupils still accessing learning from home and so we hope these will supplement our resources nicely.

Finally, I would like to thank you for your patience and understanding. I know so many of our children, just like our staff, are desperate to return to school but we have to take things steadily and slowly in order to take into account all of the guidance and information available. Any changes we make need to be sustainable and support our staff and pupils fully. I am incredibly grateful to the regular messages of support that we receive; it really helps us to stay positive as we miss our children and families so much!

Please continue to take care and I continue to look forward to seeing updates on Tapestry and through our homework email over the coming weeks.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs A Harvey