

Mrs Louise Wood BA (Hons) PGCE NPQH
Headteacher

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2020

Dear Parents of Year 6 Children

I am delighted to be writing to confirm that we WILL be able to open for Year 6 children whose parents responded 'yes' to our survey and we can welcome those children back to school on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> June.

As per previous correspondence, re-opening school has taken many hours, days and weeks of planning. We have always been committed to doing whatever it takes to have your child return to Barrow Hedges and I am therefore grateful to the dedicated and hard working members of the team who have worked tirelessly with me to facilitate this.

I appreciate that yesterday's letter stated that we would not contact you again until next Tuesday but I hope you will appreciate that today's positive news is evidence of our efforts.

Please be aware of the following important information about this cohort returning to school:

- At present we are only able to accommodate those pupils whose parents responded 'yes' on our survey of 20<sup>th</sup> May. You will have seen from the communications sent to date that the logistics involved in creating our bubbles are complex and therefore we are unable to review this situation until Wednesday 24th June.
- Where parents with Year 6 children with younger siblings in eligible year groups (i.e. Reception and Year 1) send both/all their children back, these children will be placed in a bubble with children of critical workers and/or other sibling groups. If you responded 'yes' in our survey and would prefer that your Year 6 child is placed in a Year 6 bubble then only your Year 6 son/daughter should be sent into school. This is because siblings have to be grouped together.
- You will receive a Parent Handbook and a Social Story to share with your child by no later then next Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> June. This will provide you with all the relevant information and I ask that you read this carefully. In the meantime, <u>I can confirm that your child will need to</u> arrive at school at 9.10am and their finish time will be 3.00pm.

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- We have given careful consideration to groupings of children and will <u>not</u> be changing these. We recognise that there has been lots of talk about this on social media such as WhatsApp but respectfully request that parents do not make this task even harder by contacting us about the composition of groupings. Please be assured that we are confident that your child will enjoy their return to school and really enjoy being with any of their peers after so many weeks of lockdown!
- As health and safety is paramount, please be assured that no children or staff already in school have moved bubbles to facilitate Year 6s return. Nobody can move between bubbles. Adults cannot supervise more than one bubble of children.
- Finally, and very importantly, if you responded 'yes' but have now changed your mind and do not intend to send your child to school before the summer holidays then please do let us know as soon as possible.

I would like to thank you for your support and understanding at what has been a very challenging time for us all.

Kind regards,

Mrs Louise Wood

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Headteacher