

21st May 2020

Dear Parents & Guardians,

The Government has announced that the next phase of school reopening will commence from June 1st provided that key tests are met. This will mark a first tentative staging point on the road to recovery. Wider opening is essential for the sake of our children's education and our nation's future.

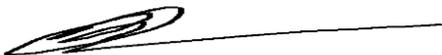
The wellbeing of our staff, pupils and the wider community is paramount and to keep everyone as safe as possible at all times we are committed to implementing protective measures, advised by public health experts. We are also conscious of the uncertainty that this decision brings and where possible we hope to alleviate the worries we know that some may have. Rigorous risk assessment at school level is a precursor to any school reopening and much planning and deliberation has gone in to this area over the past few weeks. I would like thank all the parents and guardians who have supported our efforts and completed our questionnaire, it has certainly helped us to develop our strategy. We are currently working on the final arrangements around wider opening and as you can imagine there are many details that still need to be finalised, especially at a local level.

It is important to understand that the government will only make the final decision on whether to press ahead with its reopening of schools once it has reviewed the latest science on **May 28th**. If the evidence does not support the decision to progress at this time, then wider reopening will be delayed. Given the Government's schedule, Headteachers will only be able to communicate the final position at the earliest on Friday the 29th of May. Communications will be made via school websites, letters, emails and social media.

Given the fluidity of the situation and the uncertainties that currently exist, from Thursday 21st of May we will be publishing a questions and answers webpage on our website. We will endeavor to answer all questions and keep parents and guardians up to date with developments as they happen. Please visit watertonacademytrust.org for further details.

Please continue to take care and stay safe.

Yours sincerely



Mr D Dickinson OBE
CEO
Waterton Academy Trust