



Spaxton C of E Primary School

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Head of School (Acting) – Mrs K Canham BA (Hons), MA



12 May 2020

Return to School

Dear parent/guardian,

I trust that you are all staying well and safe. I expect that the Prime Minister's speech on Sunday has generated many questions and a sense of uncertainty about our next steps, regarding a return to school, particularly if you have children in reception class, Years 1 or 6. I also anticipate some anxiety and I want to reassure you that we shall be taking some time now to listen to and consider very carefully the implications of the latest Department of Education guidance. We must not be hasty in making these decisions when we are seeking above all, to secure a safe and caring environment for your children to return to school. It is also crucial that as parents you all feel well informed and reassured.

One thing is certain, the school day and our normal routines will look very different. We shall have to reconfigure our learning spaces and create new school timings and circulation arrangements, which take into account all aspects of your child's welfare – emotional, medical and physical. We must prioritise for whatever the date of the return, albeit partial and phased, safety and wellbeing and recognise that for each child, there will be a very different lockdown experience. In terms of learning, we must take time to celebrate the learning and enrichment achievements, many of which have been posted with great pride on our website and social media page.

When I meet this week with the other Trust headteachers, we shall be discussing how we can answer all those questions and queries arising from the latest guidance. I will then write again to you in the coming days, to inform you of how we intend to support your children and our staff as we move into this next phase of the government's plan, not just for those returning first of all, but also for those coming back slightly later, if this plan proceeds.

Thank you for all of your support throughout these extremely challenging times. Please do not hesitate to contact me to discuss any of these points.

For further information from the DfE, please follow the links below.

Schools guidance

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-implementing-protective-measures-in-education-and-childcare-settings/coronavirus-covid-19-implementing-protective-measures-in-education-and-childcare-settings>

Parents information

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/reopening-schools-and-other-educational-settings-from-1-june>

Stay safe everybody.

Yours faithfully

Mrs K Canham

Acting Headteacher

Chair of Governors: Mrs S Traynor/Mr A Watson

'Those who belong to our school **protect**, **trust**, have **hope**, **persevere**, show **courage** and **rejoice**.'

(inspired by I Corinthians Ch 13 Vs 4-7)