



5th June 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Re: End of year arrangements for pupils at Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School from Monday 13th July 2020.

On the 22nd May, all parents/carers received communication regarding arrangements for the wider reopening of the Primary Schools on 8th June 2020. These arrangements were made by adhering to the commitment to the key priorities set out by our Board of Directors:

1. The safety of pupils and staff. Coronavirus has caused a national and global emergency. Thousands of people have died in the UK due to Covid-19. We are, quite rightly, taking cautious steps as we begin to reopen to more children.
2. The availability of staff and capacity of school sites. Some of our staff are in vulnerable groups so are not able to attend school at the moment. We have managed to provide the maximum number of PODs accordingly.
3. Provision – our approach to the curriculum. We are providing over and above what the government are expecting at the moment. We continue to strive to do our best with this but will not be getting everything right all the time. We will continue to strive to improve but these are unprecedented times.

Prioritising children and year groups

Thank you to all parents who responded to our recent surveys regarding the requirement of places. In line with the DfE guidance, allocation of places was given using the following order:

1. Children of key workers and vulnerable children
2. Reception
3. Year 1
4. Year 6

As a result of demand and availability of staff and capacity on school sites, Year 6 could not be initially accommodated. The academy fully appreciates that the end of Year Six is a very significant rite of passage for these children, not only as they prepare to leave the security of where they started their education journey but also to have the opportunity for the necessary transition to the next stage ahead. As children will be moving on to a variety of secondary schools; it is very important that they are able to say goodbye to their peers and staff in their own school environment and feel that they are ready for the next stage. Please be assured that as we do every year, transition/projects to support the transition to secondary school are being put into place.

In order to accommodate this essential process, the decision has been made that all Year 6 pupils, who wish to attend school, will be allocated a place for the final week of the school year; the week beginning 13th July 2020. In order to facilitate this, Early Years and Year One children will break up for the Summer on Friday 10th July 2020. Children of critical key workers, (with no other childcare provision available), will be able to attend school until the end of the academic year.

As stated previously, these are unprecedented times and the academy looks forward to a time when all pupils can attend school safely.

We fully appreciate the challenges for all pupils, parents and staff at this time and thank you for your continued support, cooperation and patience.

Yours sincerely



Mr G M O'Hara
Executive Principal



Mrs G Elliott
Acting Head of School



Mrs D Cooper
Acting Vice Principal