



G A Y T O N P R I M A R Y S C H O O L
G A Y T O N R O A D • H E S W A L L • W I R R A L • C H 6 0 8 P Z

Thursday 21st May 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

As you are aware, the Government have announced that potentially from the 1st of June 2020, schools will be beginning to open to more pupils if the Government deem that the 5 key tests have been met.

The announcement by the Prime Minister on Sunday 10th May 2020 mentioned that priority would be given to pupils in F2, Y1 and Y6. As a school, we were very much working on the basis of having a phased reintroduction, for example with ½ the year group attending for part of the week and then the other ½ attending for the rest of the week. However, the guidance to schools is absolutely clear we have to offer **full time** places to all children who are returning.

This has significantly altered all our plans as we now know it is not possible to provide full time education to all the pupils in F2, Y1 and Y6 as well as maintain our critical worker provision. We have to consider the spacing restrictions with a maximum of 15 pupils being allowed in a classroom. We also have staffing reductions as some staff are clinically vulnerable and are therefore unable to work in a school environment where social distancing cannot be guaranteed.

Based on our risk assessments, we can accommodate increasing around 70 pupils at the current time. Priority has to be given to all critical worker families before we can consider any applications from F2, Y1 or Y6 parents. Based on our current critical worker numbers, it is highly likely that we will not be able to accommodate pupils of non-critical worker families in the aforementioned year groups.

Consequently, the Governors of Gayton Primary School have agreed to offer additional places from the 1st of June based on the following:

- 1) **Current critical worker families who have regularly accessed our provision since March 2020**
- 2) **Families with two critical workers who applied for a place in March but who may have not utilised the service as they have amended shift patterns etc**
- 3) **New applications for critical worker families where both parents are critical workers or a single parent family with one critical worker**
- 4) **New applications for critical worker families where one parent is a critical worker**

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School is adhering to the Government published list of critical workers. All families will need to provide evidence to demonstrate that they qualify as a critical worker and that their role is critical to the COVID-19 response.

All parents will need to email school with a letter from your employer providing details of your critical worker status and how your role is critical to the COVID-19 response. This will need to be on headed notepaper so we can contact your employer if necessary.

The Government critical worker list as it currently stands is also attached to this email. Decisions regarding places will be referenced to this document.

Applications must be received by Tuesday 26th May at 9:30am. All documentation to support your application must be emailed to admin@gayton.wirral.sch.uk or schooloffice@gayton.wirral.sch.uk

If you wish to apply for a place for your child as you think you fulfil the critical worker criteria, please complete the application form by clicking the link: <https://forms.gle/oQp7DL979DGK3zCRA>

Please do not assume that by completing the form your child has a place. School will contact you to let you know if your application has been successful or not.

I completely appreciate that there will be many parents with pupils in F2, Y1 and Y6 who are desperate for their child to return to school. However, we have to follow the Government guidelines in order to ensure the safety of our pupils and staff and therefore have to prioritise our critical worker families first.

Thank you for support and understanding at this incredibly challenging and difficult time.

Kind regards,

Mrs McAleny

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