



14th May 2020

Dear Parents,

I know you are waiting for more information regarding returning to school on June 1st. At the moment, the guidance is being updated each day and so we don't want to make any promises we can't keep. Our challenge is to find a way to follow government guidance and at the same time do what we know is right for the children. Whilst there are uncertainties, we don't want to be premature in sharing information.

What you can be sure of is that the headteachers are working very hard to come up with a plan that keeps the children happy and safe whilst at the same time providing an education. It's very easy to do one of these two, the challenge is doing both at once.

We are trying to juggle a reduced staff work force, with a guideline of a maximum of 15 children per class (with social distancing rules that only allow space for 7 children in many rooms), setting suitable home learning, finding teachers to teach the additional classes in Years R, 1 and 6 and ensuring children have the resources they need to learn in multiple rooms. This is coupled with teacher unions advising their members not to engage with any planning based on a wider reopening of schools. So that's a flavour of the challenges we face but as ever, we are totally focused on finding solutions.

When decisions have been made and risk assessments completed, we will send you a detailed checklist of things to consider before we return; everything from drop off arrangements, to lunch, to trying on the school shoes.

Thank you once again for your forbearance and patience. We will let you know by 6pm on Wednesday 20th May how school will operate from June 1st. In the meantime, keep safe and keep smiling.

Stay alert and God bless

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ani Magill', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Ani Magill
CEO Xavier Catholic Education Trust