



Bishop Aldhelm's C.E. Primary School

Loved by God; United in Learning

Headteacher: Scott Tait

Deputy Headteacher: Lizzie Sharpe

*Love, Unity,
Courage
and Inspiration*

Friday 15th May 2020

Dear Parent,

I am writing to you to explain how we are preparing to open our school in the forthcoming weeks. The government information for schools currently changes daily and so we apologise that sometimes we are communicating differing messages.

Currently, the government have suggested that key worker and vulnerable children and children in Nursery, Year R, Year 1 and Year 6 pupils should be welcomed back when possible. This sits alongside the need for schools to ensure social distancing rules are followed where possible, that strict cleaning processes are put in place and that children and staff mix as little as possible. You will understand that safety for all is our key concern.

We, of course, would love to welcome all of our children back to school; however, given the current situation, we know that this will not be possible, whilst following the government guidelines.

We are, therefore, carrying out thorough risk assessments and planning how we can accommodate as many children as possible, whilst maintaining a safe environment for children and staff.

To enable us to plan appropriately, we are asking you to inform us by 12noon Tuesday 19th May, if you are a key worker who would like to be considered for a place for your child from 1st June. Please complete the following survey to register – please also complete even if your child is currently in school as we will be operating new registers in school from 1st June 2020:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfOkeSWCAstIOI4WZ4Mt4RR8yJoshWiQURa2aE-UD3V70XH4q/viewform>

We are assessing how many spaces we will be able to offer to children of key workers, whilst also following the government guidance on maintaining a safe environment. Where we have more requests than we are able to accommodate, we will need to prioritise places. This means not all key worker children may be offered a full time place. We will offer critical workers first, for example, health workers, carers, education and those in the food industry.

We are looking forward to welcoming other year groups back in a safe way, when it is deemed safe to do so. Please be aware this may not be the 1st June. We are also risk assessing our school setting, looking at the number of rooms, staff and cleaning availability. This means we will not be able to open to all children in the suggested year groups in the first instance. We will open in phases and will notify you as soon as we are able as to which pupils will return and when. This will follow government guidance prioritising as followed:

1. Children of critical workers and vulnerable children
2. Nursery children
3. Reception children
4. Year 1 children
5. Year 6 children

Bishop Aldhelm's C.E. Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all our children.
Hamwic Education Trust. Registered address: Unit E, Mill Yard, Nursling Street, Southampton, SO16 0AJ.
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www.bishopaldhelms.poole.sch.uk

Telephone: 01202 715100 Fax: 01202 307640 E-Mail: office@bishopaldhelms.poole.sch.uk
Address: Winston Avenue, Poole, Dorset, BH12 1PG

All places offered will be subject to staff availability, space available and being able to ensure a safe environment for your children and our staff. Please note, therefore, that places could change depending on staff availability and changes in government guidelines.

In order to prepare for reopening, we will be closed during May half term (Monday 25 May to Friday 29 May 2020) to prepare for the return of an increased number of children, whilst also ensuring we have work available for the children not returning. However, please do contact Kidscape on 07497 390001 to book a Key Worker child care place for this week.

Please can I draw your attention to the latest guidance for parents/carers at:

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

To confirm next week we will continue to operate as we are. If you have a confirmed Keyworker / Vulnerable child place, we are expecting you in school and Home Learning Activities will continue to be published on our school website for our children that remain at home. You can also visit <https://www.thenational.academy/online-classroom/subjects/#subjects> for lessons that have been prepared via the government gateway.

One point to note for next week... our car park will be closed due to growing numbers. We will revert back to our drop off and collection policies used prior to lockdown and partial school closure.

Thank you for your continued support in these challenging times. Please be assured that our highest priority is the health and safety of our pupils and staff.

We will contact you with further information as soon as we are able.

Stay safe!



Mr Tait
Headteacher