



22<sup>nd</sup> May 2020

**Proposed re-opening of schools within The Three Saints Academy Trust**

Dear parents & carers,

Further to my letter to you on 14<sup>th</sup> May I am now in a position to provide more information on our plans to open to further pupils within our schools. These plans are provisional and subject to change, but we wanted to share our current thinking with our families

You will be aware from the media that the government intends for all primary schools to open from the earliest date of 1<sup>st</sup> June for Nursery, Reception, Y1 & Y6 children. Vulnerable and key worker children will also continue to attend school. Siblings of these identified year groups will not be able to attend school unless they are in one of the above groups.

We have been working hard to put a plan in place for the possible re-opening of our schools and would like to thank parents for their help in indicating if they will be taking up a place for their child. Due to social distancing rules and having no more than 15 pupils in any room we are limited in the number of children who can return to school. We want every eligible child who wants to return to school to be able to do so, this is why we need parents to say now if they intend to take up a place, if the answer is no, we will offer that place to another child.

We want to reassure parents that the overwhelming priority for our schools is the safety of our children and staff. We have prepared risk assessments and plans to ensure all possible steps are taken to keep everyone safe. It is for this reason that we will not be opening our schools to further children until 8<sup>th</sup> June at the earliest and then we will take a phased approach. We will open to vulnerable and key worker children as usual, plus reception children. After 2 weeks we will re-assess and offer any spare places to Y1 children, or Nursery children at St Mary's. We will then, after a further 2 weeks, offer any spare places to Y6 children, or Y1 at St Mary's. In most of our schools if all eligible children in the vulnerable, key worker and reception groups attend, we will be full to capacity and will not be able to accept any further children.

**Measures to be put in place**

- Children will be put into groups with identified staff and these groups will not come into contact with any other groups, minimising the risk of cross infection
- Strict cleaning and hygiene procedures will be in place
- In line with Government advice children and staff are not required to wear any PPE; masks or

*"If you can believe, all things are possible to those who believe."*

Mark 9:23

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gloves. PPE will be used if a child needs first aid or intimate care

- We will be putting into place social distancing, however, advice states that risk of infection is unlikely if children are only mixing within their group. This is especially important to note with very young children as it will be hard, if not impossible to keep them apart

Headteachers will communicate school specific information to parents at the start of June, when we are in a position to give more detail about our plans.

We would like to thank all our parents for their patience and support. We endeavour, as always, to do the very best for our whole school community, with their safety and well-being as our number one priority. We understand that the decision to send a child back to school is one only their parents can make in this very difficult time for all of us.

We hope all our families are well and continue to stay safe.

Kirsty Tennyson

Chief Executive Officer

The Three Saints Academy Trust

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