



# Simonside Primary School

**Believe to Achieve**

Dear Parent/Carers

8<sup>th</sup> June 2020

## **Re: Proposed Re-opening of School**

Following on from the recent government guidance around the reopening of schools to more children in nursery, reception, year 1 and year 6, both governors and staff have been working hard to assess the possibility of this happening and putting all the necessary precautions in place to ensure we can keep our staff and your children safe. Each school is different and are having to make decisions based on their own children.

Our main duty as governors is to ensure your children are in a safe environment, because of this we have had lengthy discussions to consider risk assessments and look at how this can be managed. It was initially hoped that we could start to open the school to the recommended year groups on the 15<sup>th</sup> June, however after this lengthy review, governors have made the decision that this is not going to be possible.

This has been a very hard decision to make and it has not been taken lightly, I am sure you will agree we are in unprecedented times and are having to make difficult decisions. We have reviewed risk assessments, considered safety measures in school, and taken on board the views of staff and parents. Although we are keen to have our children return to school as soon as possible, we need to make sure this can be done in a safe manner. **For this reason, we have agreed to enable the return of those children in year 6 on the 15<sup>th</sup> June.**

We understand this may be inconvenient to some parents who were expecting to send their children in, but we hope you understand that the safety of the children and staff must be our priority. We do hope to open the school to further year groups in time and governors will be meeting on a regular basis with Mrs. Parnaby, to try and do this safely. We are all keen to make the experience for children returning to school a safe, happy, and stress-free experience. They are going through something which many may not understand how to cope or adjust and staff will be working to help guide them through this time of uncertainty.

For all parents, when the time comes for your child to return to school we need to make sure you read the guidelines provided as it is important you are familiar with the new organisation and structure of the day. **Our staff will do everything they can to keep your children safe however, it is imperative we have the support from parents and carers during this difficult time.**

Children will be expected to follow normal school rules as well as adhering to the rules around social distancing. If a child refuses to follow these rules, then a member of the senior leadership team may revoke a child's place. Similarly, we do expect parents to follow the same social distancing rules when on school grounds. If staff are made aware of any parents not following these rules, they will be spoken to by the senior leadership team and their child's place in school could be at risk.

These are challenging times and governors and staff are grateful for all your continued support and patience as we try our hardest to keep our community safe.

If you would like to discuss any issues or concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch with me. My email address is: [sharrison@simonsideprimary.org](mailto:sharrison@simonsideprimary.org). If you would prefer to speak to me over the telephone, contact the school office and leave your contact details and I will get back to you asap.

Thank you again for your support

*S. Harrison*

Sam Harrison

Chair of Governors



[info@simonsideprimary.org](mailto:info@simonsideprimary.org)



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