



Dear Parents and Carers,

As you probably know, the Prime Minister announced on Sunday that schools should expect to open on the 1st June for children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 6, providing their view is that it is safe to do so at that time. As a Junior School, this only affects us directly for Year 6 pupils, although I am in contact with colleagues at other schools within the Cam Academy Trust about how we can all work together to support each other.

Further advice from the Department for Education indicated that schools would be expected to create class 'bubbles' of 15 Year 6 pupils and an appropriate number of adults supervising them. We have been assured by the Department that this represents an acceptable level of risk to pupils, staff and the wider community.

I am in the process of working with staff to plan how we would make this work. I believe that we could be in a position to be able to offer what the Department for Education recommends **from the 8th June**. However, I am mindful of the concerns and worries that lots of people have about these plans – notably around transmission rates and the extra burden this plan puts on schools that have pupils from different age groups from our Junior School.

If we were to open to Year 6 pupils as the Government recommends from the 8th June, it would be helpful for me to be able to judge the likely level of pupil attendance. In order for you to tell me whether your child will attend, I want to tell you what school will look like for Year 6 pupils.

We would create 4 class 'bubbles' of 15 Year 6 pupils, each with a Teacher and a Teaching Assistant. The class would carry out learning activities that might be quite different from 'normal' lessons. There would be some specific reading and maths teaching each day, followed up by more activity based sessions such as Art and Music. Pupils would be required to retain as much distance between each other as possible in the classroom, although it will not be possible to maintain 2 metres distance between them.

There would be a series of short breaks throughout the day rather than one long lunch break, and these would be staggered so there is minimal interaction between each of the other class bubbles. We would ask you to send packed lunches in with your child so they could eat in their classroom or as a class outside.

We would develop a way of staggering the start to the school day so that as few people as possible were arriving at school at once, and we would set up different entry and exit points to the school building. We would ask you to maintain as much distance as possible between families as you arrive and depart the school site.

We are carrying out risk assessments and procedural plans over the next week to add more detail to this, and will carefully consider how pupils move around the school, organise toilet breaks, set up effective hand washing routines and interact with each other. I will send this detail out when we have it.

I know many of you will be glad to be able to support your child on their return to school, and that many of you will have concerns. There's no right way of dealing with all this that everybody will agree with, and I want you to know that you will have my full support in how you decide to manage it all with your children. The Government has decided that June is likely to be the right time to begin the phased reopening of schools. It has also decided not to fine parents for non-attendance in this period, and we will be following that guidance.

If you are parents or carers of a **Year 6 child**, I would be extremely grateful if you would complete the short survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/MVHL3GL>

Kind Regards,

Steve

Steve Davis

Headteacher