

18 June 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Update on the phased reopening of Cartmel CE Primary School

Now that our school has started to reopen to some year groups, I would like to share an update on progress so far and our plans for the rest of the Summer Term.

It has been wonderful to welcome back children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 in recent days, and I would like to thank everyone who has made their return safe and smooth. Our staff have worked very hard to make school life as normal as possible under challenging conditions, and we have appreciated the support of parents and carers in following our new procedures.

After reviewing arrangements so far, we plan to continue with the same provision for at least the next fortnight. What that means for children is as follows.

Reception

Children can attend school every **Wednesday and Thursday** in the hall, from 8.45am to 3pm.

Year 1

Children can attend school every **Monday and Tuesday** in the hall, from 8.45am to 3pm.

Year 6

Children can attend school every **Monday to Thursday inclusive** in the main school building, from 9am to 3.15pm.

Children of key workers

Children can attend school every **Monday to Thursday inclusive** in the hall, from 8.45am to 3pm.

If your child is in one of these age groups above but hasn't yet returned to school, we will be pleased to welcome him or her back if space permits. We will be happy to remind you of the logistical plans in place, and to address any concerns you may have. Of course, you are under no obligation to send your child to school at this stage. Please give us at least one week's notice to the school office if you would like your child to start attending.

While we would love to be able to increase the school's provision, our first priority remains the safety of children and staff, and it is simply not possible to widen access within the confines of our space and official guidance. We may still be able to extend provision for Reception and Year 1 children before the end of term, but are conscious that the number of children in attendance may well increase in the next few weeks. The need to accommodate everyone safely means our days for these children must stay limited for now.

Years 2 to 5

These children will continue to be supported in their remote learning, with regular updates to learning resources and teacher-led Zoom sessions at least once a week.

We miss our children in Years 2 to 5 very much, but as things stand we are not able to set dates for them to return to school. We hope it might be possible to welcome them in for a very limited number of sessions in July—though we can't guarantee this, and we must be realistic that they will not properly return to school until September at the earliest.

I'm sure you share our sadness that we can't open more fully at this stage. We continue to monitor official guidance, and will stay in touch about our planning. In the meantime, I hope you can make the most of the home learning support that teachers are providing, and that you can also join us for our weekly collective worship sessions on Zoom.

Everyone at the school is doing all they can to create a safe and positive environment for children who are attending, and we continue to plan for the happy time when we can welcome everyone back. Thank you for all your ongoing patience and support while we do so. Please remember that staff are always available to help support your children's learning, and that you can contact the office if you have any queries about resources or access to anything.

With very best wishes,

Mrs Battersby
Headteacher

Dorothy Milner
Chair of Governors