



St John's Highbury Vale C of E Primary School

Conewood Street, London N5 1DL

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Interim Head of School: Mrs Alice Shaw

Interim Executive Head: Mrs Tonnie Read

Friday 22nd May 2020

Dear Parents & Carers,

I would like to begin by offering a huge 'thank you' for how much you have supported the school over recent weeks and for supporting your child with their home learning. I know it has not been easy, but we are all learning new ways to work during this pandemic.

As you will be aware from my letter last week, we have been working hard to implement a safe plan of action in order to begin to welcome back more pupils from the 1st June. I have considered the safety and welfare of the children and staff in the school and the latest advice and guidance. This has been difficult at times as the guidance from the UK Government, Public Health England and Department of Education has changed numerous times since the original announcement was made.

However, I am pleased to say that St. John's will begin a phased plan of welcoming back more children after half term. As always, I will continue to update you on a weekly basis providing more information as we move through the phases.

Please read the following information carefully as there are some changes to our current provision.

A Phased Return <i>(Please note that school will be closed for the half term - as planned)</i>	
Phase 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • June 1st and 2nd: <u>NO CHILDREN IN SCHOOL</u> • Staff training • Staff who are able and available for work return to school • Risk assessments are shared, discussed and reviewed with staff through training and consultation • Safety Protocols and control measures put in place
Phase 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • June 3rd • Priority Groups (EHCP, Vulnerable, Disadvantaged and Key Worker Children) return to school • Children split into two 'Bubbles' (EYFS/ KS1 Bubble and KS2 Bubble) with specified classrooms and allocated adults, socially distanced desks, their own stationary equipment, separate break times and staggered lunch times along with other control measures as per the Government's guidance) • Monday – Thursday 8.55am - 3.30pm • Please Note: the school will be closed to <u>all children</u> on Fridays (this is to allow time for deep cleaning and professional meetings etc.)
Phase 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • June 8th at the earliest • Year 6 return to school





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A phased return is aimed at helping the school welcome back children and staff in the safest possible way. It has been planned in order to provide a reasonable amount of time to put protective measures in place and make adjustments to risk assessments when needed, especially during the early phases. Risk assessments will be under continuous review and adjustments will be made to minimise risks to children, parents and staff.

This phased return plan aims to ensure that we do not overwhelm the system, the children, the community or the staff. Our response plan is practical and considered; we will take a measured approach when making decisions about when and how to move through the phases safely.

Although we would like to welcome back all children as soon as possible, the safety of children, parents and staff will remain the priority at all times. The school faces a number of difficult challenges in arranging for more groups of children to be looked after safely. Once we are satisfied that we can meet these challenges, we will invite more children back.

Please be advised that all plans will remain under continuous review and are subject to change. Protective measures will be put in place for staff and pupils and adhered to as far as is possible, to ensure that the risk of transmission is reduced. Stringent social distancing cannot be adhered to in our primary school setting due to the age groups of some of our children. However, we will continue to remind our children several times a day about personal hygiene and social distancing.

We will continue to provide online learning via Google Classroom for all children who are not at school. Please continue to support your children with their home learning. If you are having difficulty accessing Google Classroom or any problems, please do not hesitate to contact us, we are here to help.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support, messages of reassurance and gratitude. I genuinely believe that we have managed to maintain the special community bond that we all hold so dear. The 'big' community in our 'small' school.

As always, I pray that you are all safe and well and wish you a restful half term break.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Tonnie Read

Interim Executive Headteacher

