

KEYHAM BARTON CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL  
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Miss R Riley  
Head Teacher

30<sup>th</sup> August, 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

### September Opening Plans

We're very much looking forward to welcoming back all our children and families on **Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September** with our new **Foundation** children starting on **Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September**, when Keyham will be fully reopening to all pupils. The expectation is that all children are now back and we're very excited about reuniting as a school community. I know there will be a lot of worry and anxiety around this – and as a parent as well as a Headteacher – I do understand. Please know that we have reviewed all the guidance and worked hard to make our school safe for our children, families and staff returning. Over the holiday, our main building has had a beautiful new facelift. Our cleaning contractors have been in to do a deep clean of the school and our wonderful Mrs Norsworthy has done the same with Gaynor Hall. I know there will be concerns and worries, but it is important that the children have a chance to reunite with their friends and get back into a regular routine, as both these things will help support their mental wellbeing. As we return, that is our first focus as a staff; supporting your children with their return to school. We will be doing all we can to make that transition as smooth as possible. If you have any concerns or worries, please speak with us and we will see what we can do together.

In July I sent guidance explaining how we intend to keep all members of our community as safe as we can, following Government Guidance. I have updated this following further advice on 28<sup>th</sup> August, 2020 and am sending this out as a reminder as to the measures we have in place.

Our first focus is wellbeing. I don't think we'll fully understand the mental health repercussions of COVID and lockdown for some time to come but we do know children and families may feel both anxious and excited about a return to school and we have prepared for this. In our first two weeks we will be focusing on a 'Reconnection Curriculum.' It was wonderful to see so many children attend our tea parties and meet their new teachers, as these will be the teachers they'll be starting with in September. Our Reconnection Curriculum is designed to help children work through any worries or anxieties they've had during lockdown, any concerns around returning to school and to help them process the effects of the last few months. We will also gently establish where children might have gaps in their learning and then our learning will be tailored towards meeting these so all children can progress to the best of their ability. We want to work with you to make the transition back into school as easy as possible for our children. Over the next few days, try and talk to them about their worries. We are here to support you with those.

We return to school on **Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September, 2020** with **Foundation** starting on **Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September**. As we have during lockdown, we will have staggered start and departure times, alphabetically by surname, so family groups can arrive and leave together. Further details are listed on the attached document. If your children have different surnames it makes sense that you arrive and leave together as a family.

There will be 3 large groups which we will keep together over the day so that we limit the contact between classes. We will have Group 1 (Courage, Kindness and Compassion classes – EYFS, Y1, Y2). Group 2 (Forgiveness and Peace classes – Y3-4) and Group 3 (Integrity and Justice classes – Y5-6). Each group will use different



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entrances and exits to avoid contact with other classes. Breaktimes and lunchtimes will also be staggered. The timings of our school day will look a bit different with our staggered arrival and departure times:

A - F - 8:40 - 2.55  
G- M - 8:50 - 3.05  
N - Z - 9:00 - 3.15

There will be a one-way system in and out of the playground, spots to stand on for social distancing outside the school and in the playground and a member of staff to guide you if you're unsure. We would ask that families drop and head off straight away just to limit any cross-contamination. It's far less of a risk outside but the more smoothly we can follow the guidelines the safer we can keep everyone. Breakfast Club will continue from 7:30-8:45 and After-School Club provision until 5:30 daily. You will need to book in via School Money as you normally would. We will also send out a list of extra-curricular activities in September when we welcome everyone back. This will be on a much smaller scale than normal due to distancing regulations but we will let you know nearer the time.

Uniform will be back to normal from September but on days where your child has PE, children will come into school in their PE kits for that day, so they don't need to bring PE kits into school or change in school. Children will need black jogging bottoms or leggings for PE in the colder weather as all PE will take place outside.

There is much more detailed guidance attached with this letter but this outlines some of the key points. The safety of our school community is of paramount importance and I hope this document helps alleviate any worries you have as a parent or carer.

A huge thank you on behalf of all staff and Governors for all you have done to support the school and your children's learning in what has been an anxious and worrying time for all. It makes me proud to be part of such a resilient and strong community.

I wish everyone a restful summer and look forward to welcoming our school family back in September.

Thank you

Rachael Riley

Headteacher

