

15th May 2020

Dear Staff, Parents and Carers,

We promised to keep you informed and in light of the Prime Minister's announcement regarding the partial opening of schools from 1st June we would like to update you on CELT's position:

1. All CELT primary schools will welcome back the prescribed year groups as follows – Year 6 on Wednesday 3rd June, Reception classes on Friday 5th June and Year 1 on Monday 8th June. Pupils should attend in school uniform.
2. Keyworker and vulnerable pupils will continue to attend as normal, but please note that the Hubs will be closed from the 1st June so all keyworker and vulnerable pupils should attend their 'home' school from the 1st June.
3. This is a very anxious time for everyone and there has been much questioning regarding the choice of year groups returning first. The Government has prioritised the primary years because they are key transition years and because there is moderately high scientific confidence in evidence suggesting younger children are less likely to become unwell if infected with coronavirus (COVID-19); and secondly for reception age and Year 1 pupils evidence shows the particularly detrimental impact which time spent out of education can have upon them. Years 10 and 12 have been chosen because they are key examination years.
4. For those year groups who will not be returning to school in June, we will continue to provide activities for learning at home and keeping contact with our families.
5. The safety of our pupils and staff is our absolute priority and before we re-open a huge number of protective measures will be undertaken.
This will include school sites being reconfigured to ensure that pupils and staff can enter, move around and leave the school safely, that social distancing can be managed effectively, that additional cleaning is in place, that staff and pupils can work and play in the same groups throughout their day and that ventilation and the safe use of outside spaces is maximised. Your school will provide you with a comprehensive list of all the precautionary measures which will be in place before the school reopens.
6. Linked to precautions, we will be asking parents and carers to agree to some additional behaviour guidance to ensure that the safety of our pupils and our staff is not compromised by behaviour which, during the pandemic, could endanger others e.g. spitting. We would ask you to support us in zero tolerance of such behaviour.
7. In order to help us prepare your school for the 1st June, we will be closing all our schools and hubs for the half-term period of the 25th to the 29th May. During this time we will not be receiving any pupils and staff will not be setting work.

We know that on Friday 29th May, having carefully examined the latest scientific evidence, the Government will confirm whether or not it is safe to open schools to the planned year groups from the week beginning Monday 1st June. If the answer to that is yes, we, like thousands of others, will take our first steps towards a 'new normal'. We will do this carefully and together.

Yours sincerely

CELt Leadership Team