

Walkley Primary School  
Burnaby Crescent  
Sheffield S6 2RZ

Tel: 0114 2340550

Fax: 0114 2310553

Email: [enquiries@walkley.sheffield.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@walkley.sheffield.sch.uk)

Web: <http://www.walkley.sheffield.sch.uk>

Headteacher: Val Sian

Deputy Headteacher: Chris Wallis

Chair of the Governing Body: Andy Wilcock



*'Enjoyment, Achievement, and Learning for life...'*

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Dear Parents / Carers

### Coronavirus update – Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2020

**Government plans, children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 in England will return to school from 1 June.**

On this rollercoaster ride of COVID 19, we can honestly say that over the last few days, we feel as though we have spent our lives in a washing machine on full spin trying to get our heads around all the conflicting advice that has come our way since the Prime Minister announced his intentions for the reopening of schools from 1st June. It is only now that the dust has settled, that Mr Wallis and I are feeling able to firm up plans which have yet to be shared with the Senior Leadership Team and Governing Body.

Needless to say, and from your overwhelming support over the last few weeks, we hope that you know that every effort is being made to ensure that Health and Safety plans will be firmly in place and the safety and well-being of children, staff and parents is paramount before any decision to reopen is confirmed.

The Health and Safety Team (including myself and Mr Wallis) have been on site this morning to ensure that the building is still in good (!) condition and continues to meet required standards. As the criteria was met, we then discussed the plans that were set out by us yesterday regarding social distancing, movement around school, the marking out of zoned playground spaces, the positioning of hand sanitiser inside and outside of every class base and door, implications for lunchtimes and toileting.....and the list goes on. This is the guidance that we are working towards:

***'For primary schools, classes should normally be split in half, with no more than 15 pupils per small group and one teacher (and, if needed, a teaching assistant). If there are any shortages of teachers, then teaching assistants can be allocated to lead a group, working under the direction of a teacher. Vulnerable children and children of critical workers in other year groups should also be split into small groups of no more than 15. Desks should be spaced as far apart as possible.'***



### Discussions have also taken place around:

- Planning and organisation of our 15 'bubble' groups
- PPE and site modification for pupils, staff and parents
- Learning and Home learning
- Communication with Governors, Senior Leadership Team staff, pupils and parents.
- Data Collection
- Site Management
- Cleaning and hygiene
- Use of resources
- Reducing social interaction of pupils.
- Use of our outdoor spaces
- Staffing implications
- Treating illness and accidents in school.

We feel that we are close to a workable solution and when we have all our details in place we will be writing in full with clear information about what this means in practice. **However, in order to fully understand the puzzle, we need to find out the number of places required for pupils in Reception, Yr1 and Yr6 pupils as soon as possible.**

**If your child is in Reception, Y1 or Y6, please click below to access the google form and select just one of the options that will give us the indication of whether you intend to send your child in to school or not.**

**[Please click here with your response](#)**

If the form does not work for any reason please respond via [enquiries@walkley.sheffield.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@walkley.sheffield.sch.uk)

I can assure you that, as in everything that we do, we are thoroughly planning how to make this work to ensure minimum risk whilst legislation changes from day to day. In the end we will do what is right for Walkley children, Walkley staff within the ever tricky Walkley building and grounds. **In the possibility that we run over schedule, it is because we are paying meticulous attention to detail with an ever changing directive and consulting with all the key groups that need to know how Walkley will work.**

We know that this does not answer all your questions, but we should be able to give you a lot more information about what our school will look like in the new 'normal' in the very near future.

Stay safe and well

Val Sian and the Walkley Team.