

# Tudor Grange Samworth Academy

A Church of England School



Dear Parents/Carers,

We know that many of you will be following the announcements made by the Government over the past two days.

A lot of guidance was published for the first time yesterday evening. A link for parents and carers was published here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/reopening-schools-and-other-educational-settings-from-1-june>

We want to share this with you now so that you know what we are reviewing at the moment.

Now that we have more guidance, we will be:

- working with you as parents and carers to understand your concerns and views so that we take this into consideration in our planning. When we issue a survey in the next few days, please do take time to complete this, your views are very important to us.
- conducting a detailed review of our site with advisors from Bellrock (the specialist company who manage our facilities). This will help us to make a plan for the changes we need to make to support hygiene and social distancing measures as we open to more pupils.
- working with our staff to understand their views and concerns to ensure that we have a very clear picture of who can be in school and who will need to work from home.

These initial actions will then enable us to consider in detail how we can support the Government's plans for the remainder of the summer term:

## Primary

- From the 1<sup>st</sup> June, the Government expects children to be able to return to early years settings, and for **Reception, Year 1 and Year 6** to be back in school in smaller class sizes.
- The Government's ambition is for all primary school children to return to school before the summer for a month if feasible, though this will be kept under review.

## Secondary

- all schools and colleges to plan so that all **year 10 pupils have some face to face contact with their teachers**. We will ensure that pupils who have key exams next year have an understanding of how teachers will support them to stay on track with a blend of online study, virtual teaching and attendance for some in school sessions.

It is now clear that pupils in **Year 7,8 and 9** who have not attended school since the closures in March are not likely to return to school until September.

We know that the government announcements have caused some parents to worry about their children returning to school. I would like to reassure you that **our priority will always be the health and welfare of our pupils and our staff**.

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We will take as much time as we need to work out what we think is best for everyone. We are committed to consulting with you, keeping you informed and seeking advice and guidance as we develop our thoughts.

We know that the CO-VID 19 situation is particularly difficult to explain to younger children. At this stage, we would suggest not discussing returning to school with your children until we are able to give you a clearer idea of exactly how this will work. We will of course update you as soon as we are clear about the government guidance and have had time to plan this thoroughly.

The Government have changed their guidance for children of critical workers attending school. It is no longer that case that you need to keep your child at home if you can, you are now encouraged to use the small school provision in place. If you are a critical worker, please contact us if you want your child to attend school so that we can plan carefully for any increase in pupil numbers.

We are also already committed to:

- Consulting with parents, staff, governors and expert specialists to explore the potential, partial, and reopening of Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6.
- Consulting with parents, staff, governors and expert specialists to explore the potential, partial, reopening of all primary years before the end of term.
- Consulting with parents, staff, governors and expert specialists to explore the potential, partial, reopening for some face to face session for Year 10 before the end of term.
- continuing to run our small school provision for the children of critical workers and vulnerable children
- continuing to provide vouchers to support our families eligible for free school meals
- submitting the required information to examination boards by the given deadlines
- ensuring that current year 11 pupils are supported with the plans they have in place to transition to their next provision
- working closely with our primary partner schools to plan how we can support the experience for children transitioning to our school in September
- ensuring our distance learning resources and delivery continues to improve for all year groups

We will also need to think about how we develop the flexibilities that may be required if partial closures remain in place for a long time.

Thank you for continuing to support your children and us, and thank you for the thoughtful messages we continue to receive; we are confident that we will find a way through that works best for this community.

Yours sincerely

Mr Alan Wilkinson (Principal)

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