



**The Federation of  
Hackbridge Primary School and Spencer Nursery School**

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11<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

**Prime Minister's announcement about the possibility of schools re-opening to some pupils on the 1<sup>st</sup> June 2020**

I am sure that you are all aware that the Prime Minister, Boris Johnson, made an announcement yesterday evening about the possibility of schools reopening to Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 on the 1<sup>st</sup> June 2020 as part of the possible next steps to coming out of lockdown.

Schools did not have any advance information about the content of the announcement, but today we have received some telephone calls from parents asking for more clarification about the proposals.

The situation is that, as yet, we do not have any more information about how this will work than parents have.

A government document published today, '*Our plan to rebuild: The UK Government's COVID-19 recovery strategy*', makes it clear that currently the rate of infection remains too high to allow the reopening of schools for all pupils yet.

'*Our plan to rebuild*' goes on to outline what the government proposes will happen when they determine that we can progress to 'step two'; namely that there will be a phased return for early years settings and schools, which they anticipate may be able to happen from the beginning of June. The document makes it clear that whilst it is the government's ambition for all primary school children to eventually return to school before the summer, if feasible, that this will be kept under review and is dependent on the results of the tests that the government will continue to apply.

We await further specific detail and guidance from The Department of Education (DfE) on how schools and nursery settings should facilitate any re-opening to larger numbers of pupils at the government's chosen point. We have as many questions as you have about how it is anticipated that schools and nursery settings should ensure appropriate social distancing in relation to our day-to-day routines once pupil numbers are increased and both the local authority and education unions are raising these questions directly with the DfE on schools' behalves.

Currently we will therefore continue only to offer childcare to vulnerable children or the children of critical workers who cannot be cared for safely at home, where their parents have agreed this with the school.

As soon as we have the detailed guidance, we will immediately begin to make plans for our schools in order to determine how this will work for us and we will communicate this to you at the earliest opportunity.

We are looking forward to reopening the school to our community and welcoming the children back, but obviously only when it is safe to do so.

Yours sincerely

Emma Walford  
Headteacher