



Coates Lane Primary School

“Happiness at the heart, shaping children of the future.”

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Headteacher: Mrs. S White
8th June 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you may have seen in the news, Lancashire County Council have released the following statement today:

*Dr Sakthi Karunanithi has **advised schools to delay reopening to Reception, Year 1, and Year 6 pupils** because, in his professional view, two of the government's five coronavirus tests are not currently being met in the county. Although the number of new cases has decreased, Lancashire and the North West has a high number of cases compared to many other regions in the country.*

Similarly, although the weekly death count in Lancashire is showing a downward trend, a consistent decline is not being seen in all areas, and in recent weeks we have seen an increase. It has also been widely reported that the R value for the North West is above 1.

There has been positive work between local organisations to plan for outbreaks in Lancashire, but better information sharing from the national to local level is still required.

Lancashire people have worked so hard throughout the epidemic in keeping the virus at bay. With various national lockdown measures lifting, we need to remain vigilant in following social distancing rules to help prevent the infection spreading.

This means that we will NOT be re-opening to wider year groups on Monday 15th June. We will continue open only to the children of key workers and vulnerable children who have registered a place with us.

Further to this, I am writing to advise you that the 'return plan' that has previously been sent to you may have to change as we have seen a large increase in the number of 'key worker' children attending school. We now have two key worker 'bubbles' as well as more 'vulnerable' children attending school which has an impact on our ability to staff and provide other 'bubbles' for years R,1 and 6. The Senior Leadership Team and Governors are currently looking at our Risk Assessments and altering our return plan where necessary. Therefore, please don't assume that Reception, Year 1 **and** Year 6 will be able to return to school on the 22nd June. We will be in touch again in the next few days to clarify our new plan in light of the changes.

Many thanks for your continued support and understanding during these extremely challenging times,

Sarah White

Headteacher



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