

29th May 2020

Dear Parents and carers,

We hope you are having an enjoyable half term break.

Following the letters that were sent out last week from myself and Mrs Plews our CEO, the government has now confirmed their intention to move ahead with the phased re-opening of schools.

I would therefore like to clarify the information that was set out in the letter last week.

When will our Primary Schools reopen?

w/c 1st June - All staff from across Northern Star Academies Trust will undergo comprehensive induction and CPD to prepare them for all aspects of the safe and secure re-opening of their schools. We will be using this week to ensure our Primary Schools are completely ready and meet the highest standards of safety and safeguarding. Home- education will continue as normal.

Schools remain open for vulnerable children and those from key worker families during the first week.

w/c 8th June - We will begin a phased re-introduction starting with **Year 6**, then **Year 1** and **Reception** provision – gradually expanding this provision over time. School remains closed to all other year groups (**Nursery, 2, 3, 4, 5**) at this stage however home learning will continue to be set weekly.

Further information for parents & carers of children in Reception, Year 1 & Year 6

Early next week I will write separately to parents and carers of children in the targeted year groups R, 1 & 6 to give details of the days which children can attend school during week commencing 8th June as well as details of measures taken to ensure safety for our children on their return. We will be giving specific instructions for drop-off and collection including staggered times and earlier finish times for the initial weeks.

Any parents of children in R, 1 & 6 who we were unable to speak to prior to half term or who have changed their decision about whether they would like their child to return this half term should contact the school office from Monday. Parents who indicated a definite 'Yes' do not need to contact school and should await my next letter.

In addition, we have produced a Social Story to share with your children and an Infographic for parents to help understand any changes prior to a return to school. I will send these out next week.

Further Communication

As you will be aware from all my previous letters, we are here to help and we have been in touch with many families who have requested help with home learning or other matters. We have sent out alternative learning materials to children who were struggling with on-line learning and are happy to continue to do so for children who will continue to be at home next half term. If you would like to talk to a teacher or to myself and Mrs Pitts, please contact us through the on-line platforms or by contacting the school office. We do know, from tracking the on-line learning and through discussions with parents where alternative learning has been set, that many children are engaging very well with tasks and enjoy the feedback received from teachers on-line. We appreciate that this does not replace face to face contact however the platforms that we have chosen to use (Purple Mash and Google Classroom) ensure that internet safety remains a key aspect, as learning using webcams and other devices is not recommended for primary age pupils away from school and when the school cannot retain a strict control over access remotely.



For those continuing to learn from home, please do let us know if you need our help. We are happy to adapt learning tasks and arrange to send a physical activity pack as we have done over the last half term if you would prefer. Do not forget that in addition, the class pages on our website have alternative suggestions for learning website and activities. It has been great to see so many children engage in the more creative tasks that were set before the holiday, such as delivering painted pebbles and writing letters to their teachers and delivering them to school.

We look forward to welcoming more children back to school over the course of the next half term and to continuing to support home learning as much as is possible.

I will be in touch again next week and in the meantime please do enjoy the remainder of the half term break.

Yours sincerely,

Mr de Castro Morland
Headteacher



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