Friday 5th June 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

RE.Update on Wider Opening

I hope that you are all safe and well, and that you had a wonderful half term holiday.

Following my letter of 26th May, I am writing to you with an update about wider school opening and our plans so far for the rest of the Summer term.

The Government has continued to issue guidance to schools throughout half term and this week, which has inevitably had an impact on our strategy and what we can safely offer at Good Shepherd as part of a phased return. With safety at the forefront of our decisions, we have formulated the plans below for the week just passed and the next three weeks based on the latest Government guidance, the individual challenges of our school building and our staffing capacity.

Week Beginning		
1st June	Key Worker Groups only	Staggered start / finish times Either: 9:00am-3:30pm Or: 9:10am-3:15pm
8th June	Key Worker Groups only	Staggered start / finish times Either: 9:00am-3:30pm Or: 9:10am-3:15pm
15th June *these plans will be confirmed closer to the time, depending on national and local transmission rates and the success of our wider opening strategy from 1st June*	Key Worker Groups and Year 1 only	Staggered start / finish times TBC
22nd June *these plans are in their preliminary stages and will be confirmed closer to the time, depending on national and local transmission rates and the success of our wider opening strategy from 1st June*	Key Worker Groups, Year 1 And Year 6 only	Staggered start / finish times TBC

We have also set out our Covid-Safe expectations below for all to make a safe return to school, children, parents and staff..

Good Shepherd Catholic Primary School Covid-Safe Agreement

In addition to all existing school policies, including Health & Safety and Safeguarding, we will be making the following agreements between children, parents and staff to ensure that Covid-Safe behaviours are consistent for the safety of all within the Good Shepherd school community.

As pupils we will:

1. Follow social distancing guidelines at all times: in the classroom, in other areas, in the playground and moving around the school.

2. Wash and sanitise our hands regularly as instructed by the teacher

3. Sit at our allocated seat in the classroom and not move without permission

4. Only bring lunch boxes and water bottles (no school bags, pencil cases etc.)

5. Only use the stationery kits provided by the school: do not share or lend any of it

6. Tell a teacher if we develop coronavirus symptoms (high temperature, continuous new cough, loss of smell or taste) whilst at school

As Parents and Carers, I / we will:

Risk of Wider Opening:
1. Understand and accept that Good Shepherd Catholic Primary School can mitigate some of the risks associated with Covid-19 but cannot remove the risks altogether

Daily Health and Hygiene:
1. Check my child's health every morning before they leave for school

2. Not send them to school if they are displaying any symptoms of the coronavirus, no matter how mild

3. Ensure that all items of my child's school uniform are washed routinely to avoid the spread of the coronavirus on fabric

4. Not send my child to school if any member of my household has displayed symptoms of the coronavirus in the last 14 days, unless that member of the household has had a negative result from a coronavirus test via the NHS/Public Health England

5. Share details about a positive or negative coronavirus test result within my household with the school at the earliest possible opportunity to ensure effective track and tracing within the school community

Emergency Contact:
1. Ensure that emergency contact details are up to date on the school system

2. Ensure that I/we make reasonable steps to ensure an emergency contact can be reached at all times whilst my child is on the school site to ensure that they can be collected or sent home immediately if showing symptoms of the coronavirus

Daily Procedures:

1. Give my permission for my child to have their temperature checked by the school when on site

2. Bring children to school at the allocated time and collect children promptly to avoid over-crowding around school

3. Ensure that my child understands the importance of good hand hygiene and understands how to wash or sanitise their hands

4. Follow Catch It, Bin It, Kill It protocol and ensure that my child carries tissues to support this

5. Not enter the school site unless it is absolutely necessary

6. Where possible, I / we will not bring siblings to school for drop off / pick up

7. Refrain from gathering in groups outside school as this will unnecessarily increase the risk of infection to our children and the wider community.

8. Follow the usual absence reporting procedures if my child is unable to attend school on a scheduled day

9. Reinforce the importance of following the school's Covid-safe procedures at all times

As staff at Good Shepherd catholic Primary School, we agree to:
1. Read the school's risk assessment thoroughly and uphold all actions consistently as detailed therein

2. Maintain our social distancing responsibilities at all times, including in classrooms and around school, e.g. staying at the front of the classroom while teaching and not congregating in the Staff Room

3. Follow and promote Covid-Safe hygiene protocols

4. Organise classrooms and other school environments so that effective social distancing can be maintained

5. Follow the timetable accurately to minimise contact outside each bubble, including staggered drop-off / pick-up times and playtimes

6. Provide a safe, disciplined and happy environment in which all pupils can learn effectively with a focus on well-being and re-establishing school routines

7. Follow all school policies and procedures, in addition to any Covid-19 policies and procedures

8. Ensure that regular cleaning of the school takes place in line with national protocols and risk assessments (SLT & Premises focus but all other staff to support and highlight where additional cleaning is identified)

9. Be available to listen to, discuss and act to resolve concerns expressed by parents / carers and pupils

10. Consistently respond to pupils who are not following Covid-Safe behaviours to ensure that the safety of the school community is maintained

Keep Safe, God Bless

Paul Moriarty, Headteacher