



Orchard Primary and Nursery School

Head Teacher Mrs J Chambers
Chapel Street Kirkby-in-Ashfield Nottingham NG17 8JY

Telephone (01623) 455939 Fax (01623) 459868
[Email office@orchard-pri.notts.sch.uk](mailto:office@orchard-pri.notts.sch.uk)

14th May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

The Government has announced an ambition for a measured return to school for pupils in certain year groups from 1st June. To achieve this, we need to know how many parents would like their children to be part of that phased return. Schools can only operate safely with a set number of pupils, and so requests will not necessarily guarantee your child a place.

You can apply for a place if your child is:

- 1. In Nursery, Reception, Year 1 or Year 6**
- 2. A child identified by school as vulnerable or the child of key workers as set out in Government guidelines**

Applications for new places are optional at this stage; so even if your child is eligible, it is your decision as to whether you believe it is best to send your child to school. If you choose to keep your child at home, you will continue to receive high quality learning at home and regular contact to support your child and family.

To support you in making a decision on whether to send your child to school, please see below a summary of the guidance from the Department for Education to ensure the safe opening of schools.

- **There will be a maximum of 15 children in a classroom some led by a teacher and others by a teaching assistant, depending on numbers.**
- **Children will not be able to mix with children who are not in their group of 15. This may require staggered assemblies, playtimes and lunchtimes.**
- **If there is a confirmed case of Coronavirus, all children in that group will be told to self-isolate for 14 days.**
- **Only 1 parent will be allowed to pick up or drop off their children.**
- **Staggered starts and ends to enable safe drop offs and collections will be put in place.**
- **Any school provision will be limited to allow for cleaning.**
- **There is no obligation to initially provide wraparound care e.g. breakfast club and after school clubs.**
- **Brothers and sisters of Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 children will only be admitted if they meet the vulnerable/key worker classification.**

The request system will help us to plan a safe return for children during this initial phase. As safety is our priority this could entail a phased return date for different year groups, a staggering of drop off and pick up times to maintain safety, or part-time timetables.

If you require a place please email office@orchard-pri.notts.sch.uk by midday Monday 18th May.

Once we have received applications, we will be in a position to plan the provision and will then update you on specific arrangements for your child.

Thank you for your continued support during this difficult time. If you have a query, or need further support, please do not hesitate to contact the school in the usual way, we are here to help.

Many thanks,

Mrs Chambers
(Head Teacher)

