

Ellington Infant School

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Dear Parents and Carers,

I am really pleased to report that the Year R children who returned to school last week have settled in well, adapting quickly to the new environment and routines. The staff and I are looking forward to seeing many of our Year 1 pupils return this week and we are confident that they will settle in equally as well. As you are aware the government has given schools a priority list of children schools need to accommodate first before offering places out to other year groups. These groups are;

- The children of Key and Critical workers
- Vulnerable children
- Year R
- Year 1

Next week we will contact the parents who told us they were unsure as to whether they would be returning their child to school before September to see whether they want to come back. As mentioned in previous letters we have had to put many systems in place in order to reduce the risk of infection across the school, one of these protective measures has been a reduction in class sizes (now referred to as bubbles) to a maximum of 15, including the adults. If you are planning for your child to return to school before September it may well be that they are with a different teacher and in a different classroom, I know that this is causing many parents some level of anxiety and is far from ideal, however these measures are necessary to reduce the risk of members of our school community becoming ill.

Until I have an accurate picture of how many Year R and Year 1 children will be returning for the third phase of our reopening I am unable to plan for Year 2 children to return. We are optimistic that we will be able to welcome Year 2 children back before the end of the summer term but at present cannot say when this will be or how this will look. We will however, be contacting Year 2 parents next week in order to find out how many children we need to accommodate if they do return.

All parents returning their children have been sent out a new Covid-19 home/school agreement. In returning your child to school we will presume consent to this agreement and that you have agreed to follow government guidance. In making a decision as to whether you wish your child to return to school I urge you to read both the Home/School agreement and the reopening risk assessment, both of which are available on our website under latest news.

In the meantime please take care and remember everything we are doing at Ellington is to protect members of our school community. It has been a tough journey for all of us and it is not over yet but we wish you all the best for the coming weeks.

N. Brown
Headteacher

Courage

Happiness

Teamwork

High Expectations

Respect