

ASHCROFT INFANT AND NURSERY SCHOOL

Mildenhall, Tamworth, B79 8RU

'Providing the best start in life for all children'

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Wednesday 13th May 2020

Hello to you all,

I would like to start by thanking you all for your support and kind messages over the last two days. This is by far the hardest thing I have faced in my entire teaching career but knowing that the school has your support makes it much more bearable.

We are still working through different scenarios and potential plans and hope to have something for you next week. What I can say is that we are trying our hardest to follow the government directive whilst trying to keep everyone as safe as we can. This is particularly challenging for us as an infant school as the government want us to open school for nursery, reception and year 1 which is effectively 75% of our school population – an almost impossible task.

Any potential plan will mean that we will be unable to offer full time provision to any of the above children except for those of key worker parents and our most vulnerable children. We are working on only allowing 10 children on a part time basis in each classroom as we believe this is the absolute maximum if we are to achieve any kind of social distancing – although we also acknowledge that this may be an impossible task with such young children.

So to be able to move forward we need your help. We know that you will all have very different circumstances as well as differing opinions on how safe it is for children to return. We also want you to know that there will no judgment from us either way – you need to do what is right for you, and there will also be no fines or penalties from the local authority if you decide to keep your children at home.

Nursey, Reception and Year 1 parents - we now need you all to let us know if you would like your child to return to school on the 1st June (whatever that provision may be). To do this please email office@ashcroft.staffs.sch.uk with the subject line 'school place + year group' e.g. School Place Nursery and simply state whether you would like to send your child into school on the 1st June. Please note that this does not mean that your child will be able to return to school on the 1st – any plan will be communicated once we have numbers.

Key worker parents - We will also be expanding our key worker category to allow children with just one key worker parent to attend – please can you let us know if you will be requiring a place by emailing as above with the subject line 'school place key worker'.

Year 2 parents – we will be in touch in due course so no need to contact us just yet.

All emails to be sent by Friday 15th May at the latest - thank you.

HEADTEACHER: Mrs Jayne Fellows DEPUTY HEAD: Mrs Eluned Lane





Once we have this information we will be able to formalise our plans dependent on numbers and let you know asap.

Please note that **we will not be running breakfast club or after school club** when we return on the 1st – this will be reviewed and will be reinstated once we know it is safe for more children to mix together. School start times and end times will also need to be staggered – there will be more information about this in the final plan.

We have also made the decision to close during the May Whitsun holiday to allow us to prepare for children to return on the 1st June.

Thank you for your understanding, patience and support. The children's safety as well as the safety of our staff and the wider community will always be our priority. Stay safe and look after each other.

Jayne Fellows

Headteacher

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