



Preshute Church of England Primary School

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1st July 2020

Dear parents and carers,

I'm writing to you following the various updates from us at Preshute, and in response to some of your questions.

The limited June 1st opening of the school followed extensive risk assessments of both the site and staff to ensure that we could safely offer school places in line with the Government guidelines. Currently the school is opening safely to Y6, vulnerable pupils and pupils of key workers. These plans were discussed and agreed with Wiltshire Council and the risk assessment was overseen by Public Health and Health & Safety officials to ensure full compliance with the COVID19 guidance in force.

Despite the most recent indications of 'flexibility' for schools to open more widely, we are still required to take into account the original guidance on attendance - that being certain groups as a priority: vulnerable pupils, key worker pupils, YR, Y1 and Y6 and with specific restrictions on group size and group separation. The governors believe that we need to continue offering places for the increasing number of key worker families, vulnerable children and Y6. Hence, we are not currently able to add any further flexibility to this offer. The key worker group (a priority group) continues to increase in demand and the school is working hard to manage this on a daily basis. We are currently managing to operate 8 "bubbles" in a 7-Classroom school.

Guidance from the Government regarding September opening is now expected by the end of the week. Until then it is difficult to plan in detail for September. However, we believe that schools will be expected to be fully open in September with no social distancing for pupils within separated year group bubbles but retaining distancing for teachers/school staff - until such guidance is actually published this remains in no way certain. We will use the official Government guidance, when published, to inform our plan for September.

The current lack of developed Government guidance simply exacerbates the difficult situation for schools, parents and children. We will communicate future plans with parents at the earliest opportunity; **I can only reiterate that our imperative remains welcoming back all pupils as soon as possible and when safety permits.**

Peter McGuigan
Chair of Governors

