



St Bartholomew's C of E (Aided) Primary School  
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Headteacher: Mr C Beckerson BA(QTS) Hons

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have been busy making plans to reopen the school and are ready to share the initial details with you. Regardless of anything you may have heard or have read in the national media, we would like to assure you that everything we have planned is tailored to our fantastic school, our amazing and precious children, our dedicated staff, yourselves and the wider community.

The leadership team at the school, the governors, the local authority, the diocese and indeed everybody involved at St Bart's extend their sympathy to everybody in our community and beyond who has been affected by the virus. We are united in our determination to return to normal as soon as we can.

Before I share the details below with you, it is important for me to stress that our plan is entirely dependent on the government advising that the country has met its 5 tests to support the reopening of schools.

#### [Our plan in general](#)

The most important factor we have taken into consideration throughout our planning has been the safety of children, their families and our staff. We have completed a detailed risk assessment and have used this to inform the rest of our plans. These plans remain subject to change as further information and guidance becomes available from the Department for Education, the local authority and the teaching unions.

Based on the risk assessment, we have determined that a full return to school for the 3 year groups indicated by the government is not possible immediately due to the particular nature of our site, our staffing levels, and the impact that this will have on our ability to be able to provide adequate home learning to the year groups who are not scheduled to return to the classroom.

Instead we are working on the basis that from the week beginning Monday 1st June, we will commence a phased return to school based on a rota system with the first children (Fiji class) coming into the school on Thursday 4th and 5<sup>th</sup> June. Our staff will return at the start of the week to further familiarise themselves with the new arrangements and plan accordingly.

#### **Rota beginning on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June:**

**Monday & Tuesday:** one class from each of Year groups R, 1 & 6

**Wednesday:** the school will be deep cleaned

**Thursday & Friday:** the other class from each of Year groups R, 1 & 6

**Every week day:** key Workers' children will continue to attend when they need a place

We acknowledge that some of you will have been expecting a fuller timetable for your children. It is important to stress that we are working as hard as we can towards everything that is being asked of us, and we will review these arrangements on a regular basis and keep you informed of any proposed changes.



We understand that some of you may be unable or unwilling to return your child to school. The Government has confirmed there will be no penalties for those not returning.

#### Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 6

Please see the attached document entitled 'Our plan in detail' that describes how the return to school will work. Please read this carefully and take some time to talk to your child about their return as soon as possible. Some of our instructions rely on everybody being mindful to follow strict hygiene routines and timetables for arrival and departure from the school gate. We ask that everybody respects these rules for the safety of all.

In order to allocate the children into their learning groups as soon as possible, we need a precise idea on how many children to expect back. After reading both this letter and the full explanatory guide please complete this survey <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/VKYR5VK> by **12pm on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June** to let us know if your child will be returning to school. We will otherwise assume that your child is NOT returning. Please complete one survey per child.

#### Children in Years 2, 3, 4 & 5

Your child will continue to be supported with home-learning material and with phone calls from their teacher. The structure and timings of this may change as more staff will be required on site on different days and as we work towards a fuller schedule on site.

#### Children who currently have a place on site

Children whose parents are key workers and those with other eligibility for a school place will continue to attend school. However, if these children are in Reception, Year 1 or Year 6 they will need to remain in their current 'multi-age' group as it will not be safe to mix them back in with their own class sub-groups.

All of this information, including the detailed plans, are on the school website under the Covid-19 guidance section and will be updated as necessary.

If you have any general questions about this process please email them to [returntoschool@stbartholomews.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:returntoschool@stbartholomews.surrey.sch.uk) These will be reviewed regularly and the guidance document updated as necessary.

Thank you for your understanding and patience at this time.

Yours faithfully

*C. D. Beckerson*



Charles Beckerson  
Head Teacher

Bryony Atkinson  
on behalf of the Governing Board