

Monday 1st June 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

I am writing to inform you of changes to our proposed opening of school. On Friday 29th May, Summit Learning Trust made the decision to postpone the planned opening of school to more children.

Below is a statement from our CEO, Mrs Catherine Anwar:

The Summit Learning Trust places the welfare of pupils, staff and our communities at the forefront of our work at all times. Following our original decision, more information has been published by the government, the SAGE group and the independent SAGE group. We have completed forensic risk assessments in every academy, based on and informed by government guidelines, to establish that we can offer provision to selected groups of pupils in as safe a manner as possible. These plans have been scrutinised and checked by our Audit and Risk Committee, and our Board of Trustees.

We continue to review published information to inform our risk planning and have now decided to **push back opening for Year 6 pupils to Monday 15th June**. It appears that the risks to pupils, staff, parents and our communities will significantly reduce with this two-week delay. In addition, this gives additional time for the 'Track, Trace and Isolate' system to get established, which will help us to see how our communities are being affected by COVID-19 and support a more informed decision on opening to more pupils.

We also appreciate that some parents did not wish their children to attend school at this time, and we fully respect this. We hope that by delaying the start date to 15th June for Year 6, many more of you will be reassured and feel able to send your children into school. There will be no penalty for parents choosing to keep their children at home at this time.

We are clear that we will continue to be informed by all scientific and medical advice, and by government guidelines. Flexibility and swift responsiveness are crucial to our approach. This is why we have phased our return offer over three weeks, ensuring that we can make any adjustments to our risk assessments and our practice as we open slowly and steadily.

We will have no hesitation in making further changes to these plans should anything emerge that changes our assessment of risk for our pupils and staff.

Our planned return to school:

From 1 June:

We continue to be open for vulnerable children and children of key workers, as they are at present.

Strength through Diversity | Ambition through Challenge | Excellence through Curiosity

From Monday 15 June:

We plan to open for Year 6 pupils, to be taught in small groups known as bubbles. Parents will be sent a questionnaire to complete on Tuesday 9th June 2020 to let us know if your children will be returning to school from Monday 15th June.

From Monday 22 June

We plan to open for Year 1 pupils, to be taught in small groups. Parents who wish their children to attend will be sent details of how and when to attend nearer the time.

From Monday 29 June

We plan to open for Reception children, to be taught in small groups. Parents who wish their children to attend will be sent details of how and when to attend nearer the time.

Kind regards,

W Cotterill

Mrs W Cotterill
Principal