

FAO Parent/Carer  
Wimborne Academy Trust Schools

13 May 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

***Possible reopening of schools to reception, year 1 and year 6 children from 1 June***

The Prime Minister announced on Sunday the gradual reopening of schools. The Department for Education have now released guidance to schools and parents.

From the week commencing 1 June at the earliest, first and middle schools are being asked, if possible, to welcome back children in reception, year 1 and year 6. The detailed guidance is available here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/reopening-schools-and-other-educational-settings-from-1-june>

We at Wimborne Academy Trust are keen to open our schools to more children if it is possible to do so safely but the safety and well-being of our pupils, staff, families and the wider community has to be our priority.

We are therefore now assessing if and how we can operate safely with more pupils and staff in our schools. As you will appreciate, there are many aspects and details to consider and we will work closely with our staff and listen to our parents in ensuring the best possible approach for our family of schools.

However, it is clear that your child's school experience will be very different from the one they most recently remember as we will need to restrict class sizes and introduce significant additional safety, distancing and hygiene measures.

We know that some parents do not feel ready to send their children back to school. Wimborne Academy Trust schools will authorise absence for your children in line with government guidance if you choose to keep them at home. Remote learning will continue to be provided for all year groups across our schools, including those eligible to return first.

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So that we can make plans based on accurate numbers, if your child is in reception, year 1 or year 6, your school will contact you this week to ask if you intend to send your child to school or keep them at home. This is an important part of planning the safe opening of your child's school so please respond as quickly as you can.

Your child's school will contact you again by Wednesday 20 May with more information about the arrangements we will be introducing.

In the meantime, thank you for your continued support and patience during these challenging and ever-changing times.

The image shows two handwritten signatures in black ink. The signature on the left is 'Liz West' and the signature on the right is 'John Dickson'.

Liz West  
CEO

John Dickson  
Chair of Trustees

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Academy Trust

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