Ramsgate Arts Primary School

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Dear Parents and Carers,

The Government has determined that we may be in the position to reopen our school to children who are in Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 on June 1st, 2020.

I am sure you will appreciate that in the current climate, decisions are being made on a day-to-day basis but at present schools are being asked to prepare to open to those year groups.

As always, our paramount concern is to ensure -as best we can- the safety and security of the children. If the Government can offer complete assurance that it is safe to do so, Ramsgate Arts primary School intends to open on the 1st June.

The measures that we will be putting in place will be as follows:

- On the 1st June, key worker children will continue to be offered places at RAPS from 8.30am-3.00pm.
- From 2nd June, we will look, over the next six weeks, to bring the stipulated year groups back, if we are ready to do so. The return of the year groups will be very gradual and phased. I will not be asking Year R, 1 and 6 to come back at the same time, but gradually.
- Children will be taught in groups of no more than 15 pupils. Groups will be allocated a teacher.
 This will not necessarily be your child's class teacher but will depend on staff availability.
- Children will be taught in the same room each day.
- The groups will be taught in isolation throughout the day, they will not meet other adults or children from any other groups- effectively putting them in their own isolation bubble.
- The children will be taught about the principles of social distancing, and we will endeavour that these are followed, but please be mindful that the younger the child, the less likely it will be that they can continually adhere to these rules.
- The children will be taught the principles of a personal hygiene regime (hand washing and nose blowing/sneezing), and this will be strictly adhered to throughout the day.
- All children and adults will be temperature checked at the start of the school day. Any child or adult showing any Covid-19 symptoms will be collected by their parents and will not be able to return until they have been tested.
- No parent, guest or visitor will be allowed into school unless they are invited in by a member of the school's Leadership Team.
- There will be clear routines for entry into school at the start of the day and for collection of the children at the end of the day. Information on these will follow near to the time of return.
- There will be no Breakfast Club or RAPS Club during this current year. Additionally, there will be no KS2 Arts curriculum, this is, of course, to minimise the potential for cross-infection.

'One Childhood One Chance'



In order that we can relieve some of the anxieties that children may have, both in understanding what is happening in the world, as well as helping them to adapt after such a long period out of school, we will be amending the curriculum that we offer.

The curriculum will be adapted to allow the children the opportunity to re-establish relationships and routines. We will be maximising the use of outside space, taking the learning outside as much as possible throughout the day. Our primary concern will be initially to help our pupils adapt to the new measures and systems, manage the children's expectations, and to continue to maintain their well-being and help them to develop new ways to learn.

For the school to plan for the return of Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 pupils, we need parents with children in these year groups to tell us about their circumstances and whether they think they will or will not be sending in their child(ren) to school if it reopens.

Please complete the key survey and return by 22.00 Wednesday 20th May at the latest.

VAT Parent Survey: Response to Reopening of Schools

I realise that this will be an immensely difficult decision for parents to make and it is up to each and every one of you to consider your own personal circumstances. However, please know that we will do our utmost to keep staff and children safe, on the basis of the knowledge that we currently have. The details of how the school will operate will be flexible, depending on how effectively they work and I will let you know if, or when, any arrangements change.

I will offer further guidance to our opening procedures on Friday 22nd May. I hope that this will go some way to putting your minds at ease, should you have any additional thoughts or questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

With warmest wishes

N Budge



