

12th May 2020

Dear Parents,

As you will no doubt have heard, on Sunday at 7pm the Prime Minister announced that **IF** key targets have been met related to the pandemic in England, then the intention is to open school to Early Years ,Year 1 and Year 6 classes. Further guidance was given yesterday afternoon that states that **IF** feasible the school will then be open for all pupils with a month to go before the end of the academic year.

I must re-iterate that the key word in all of this is **IF**. Obviously **IF** data shows increased cases of infection or the R increases then the Government will reconsider what is practical and safe to do.

As a school we cannot sit back and wait on the word 'if' and therefore we have started to think about the implications of a return to school for the pupils and the staff of Brook. I have met this morning with our Senior Leadership Team and spoken to the Chair of Governors, Mrs Sahota to plan out what key issues need to be addressed to ensure the safety of every single person on site. In addition to these plans, I will be working extremely closely on a day to day basis, with the local authority and health and safety departments within the council to ensure the appropriate safety measures are in place.

We will be considering every aspect of school from the organisation of a week, day, entry and exit, timings, social distancing, hygiene, the use of outdoors, break times and cleaning procedures. Whilst I am working with other Dudley Headteachers to plan our next steps; some decisions may be unique to our school due to the premises and staffing available. Whilst we all want to be back, we want to be back safely, and it must be recognised that significant changes will have to be made if we are to achieve this.

I will ensure we communicate with you, particularly EYFS, Year 1 and Year 6 parents in the first instance, to update you on further developments as and when I have them. I know as a parent myself how concerned you all are, believe me I also feel that way which is why we will be working to ensure we bring children in when it is safe for us to do so and not before. Until then school arrangements will remain the same with the group of key worker and vulnerable children attending school through a booking system via email.

Best wishes

Mrs Marie Fellows (Headteacher)

Mrs Louise Sahota (Chair of Governors)