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HEADTEACHER: Mrs Gemma Martin

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

We do hope that you all remain safe and well as the situation around us evolves.

As I am sure you are aware, the government is now proposing that schools open to more pupils from the 1<sup>st</sup> June, if circumstances allow. We are currently planning for this so that we are fully prepared should it be safe to take this action.

The pupils that the government has identified as being included in the first phase of attendance (**in addition** to children of key workers and vulnerable pupils, who have been eligible to attend throughout the period of partial closure) are:

- Nursery
- Reception
- Year 1.

Schools have been asked to ensure that group sizes in each classroom are reduced and that steps are taken to minimise interactions between groups throughout the day so as to reduce the risk of transmission. As part of our plan, we intend to operate a staggered drop off and collection arrangement and cater for each year group cohort individually in primary teaching rooms so that social distancing can be adhered to as much as possible with children of this age. We will adopt the following approach, as far as is practicable:

Primary Teaching Room:	Group of Children:	Drop off time:	Collection time:
EYFS classroom	Nursery	8.40	2.40
KS2 classroom	Reception	8.50	2.50
KS1 classroom	Y1	8.45	2.45
Conservatory	Other eligible key worker pupils	9.00	3.00

At drop off and collection times, adults should please socially distance in the playground and make the transition as swiftly as possible.

As well as the measures outlined above, each group will have their own morning break-time slot and their own lunch-time eating and play-time slot. At this stage, it is anticipated that hot meals will be available via Aspens for the children in school and these should be ordered online in the usual way if

required. In addition, frequent hand washing and good hygiene practices will of course be upheld and regular and thorough cleaning of the school will take place.

If demand is there and we are able to do so safely, we will endeavour to provide wrap around care from 1<sup>st</sup> June (for the usual hours and at the usual chargeable rate). If you will require this service, please email me at [head@himbleton.worcs.sch.uk](mailto:head@himbleton.worcs.sch.uk) to indicate this as soon as possible so that we can plan staffing and provision accordingly.

The government is strongly encouraging parents of children in eligible year groups to send their children in to school so long as they are not showing symptoms of the virus, self-isolating or in a clinically vulnerable group. However, if you are the parent of an eligible child and **do not** intend to send your child in to school from 1<sup>st</sup> June, please let me know via email as soon as possible so that this can be considered in our planning.

As you can see, we intend to offer full-time provision for each of the eligible groups. However, we feel it is important to highlight at this early stage that if the capacity of our staff team were to be reduced, this would need to be reviewed and may have to be altered.

Children in Years 2, 3 and 4 are not included in the first phase of the government's increased attendance plan. We will continue to provide home learning resources via the website for these year groups.

We regret that we will be unable to open during the allocated half-term break for key workers (week beginning 25<sup>th</sup> May) due to the fact that this time will be needed to adequately prepare the school for reopening for more children. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.

As always, we thank you for your support, understanding and all the hard work you are doing with your children at home and look forward to a time when our school community can come together safely as a whole once again.

Kind regards,

Mrs Martin