

12<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Dear Parents,

I wanted to take this opportunity to write to you to both see how you and your families are and also to provide you with some updates in light of the very recent Government announcements. Firstly, how are you? I hope that at this most challenging of times for us all and in so many ways, that you and your families are keeping well. School is certainly so different without you all here but as a team, we have loved hearing from you on phone calls home or from the home learning you have been sharing via the admin and class emails. As I have said on many occasions before, we are here for you all so please do not hesitate to contact us if there is anything at all that we can help or support with.

On Sunday, the Prime Minister announced the Government plan for schools and further detail was provided just yesterday. We heard that schools 'may open' to more pupils from the 1st of June. We are writing to inform you of our response to this announcement.

Until the 31st of May, nothing changes. The school remains open to the children of critical workers. Despite the return to work of many professions, the critical worker list remains unchanged and can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

The Prime Minister stated that schools 'may open' from June the 1st for: children of critical workers; Nursery pupils; Reception pupils and pupils in Year 1 and Year 6. This is dependent on the 'R' rate lowering and the Government meeting the five tests that they have set out. He went on to say that the rest of primary pupils 'may return' one month before the end of the summer term. This leaves parents with many questions and most importantly - how will my child be safe?

Department for Education guidance for parents was updated on Monday and can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers>

As at the beginning of lock down, we will deal in facts. The potential opening of schools to more pupils is still three weeks away which gives us time to plan. First and foremost, any plans we make will be based upon the safety and well-being of your child and family and our staff.

Our first action is to assess risk and plan for safety. We will be carrying out the following actions over the next week:

1. Identify areas of risk associated with the new guidelines.
2. Reassess our current risk assessments and adapt them.
3. Identify levels of safety that can be achieved.
4. Identify and put in place measures to address the risk.
5. Plan a reopening which meets the risk assessment requirements.



**Ilsham C of E Academy**  
Ilsham Road, Torquay,  
Devon, TQ1 2JQ  
**T:** 01803 292313 **E:** [ilsham@lapsw.org](mailto:ilsham@lapsw.org)  
**W:** [ilsham-lap.co.uk](http://ilsham-lap.co.uk)



**TOGETHER WE EMPOWER EXCELLENCE**



Once we have assessed risk and identified measures we can put in place, we will write to you, informing you of what the school opening will look like. Safety will always be the leading factor in our decisions. We have three weeks to plan and we will provide updates and information in a timely manner, where possible.

We would like to thank you for the ongoing trust that you have placed in us. I want to reassure you that any plans we make will be underpinned by the safety and wellbeing of your child and this will always be at the forefront of any decisions that we make.

Thank you for your support and understanding as we plan for this next phase. May I take this opportunity to wish you all well and to thank you for your ongoing patience, understanding and support.

Best wishes and take care,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "D.A. Ryan".

Dawn Ryan  
*Head of Academy*