

Friday 22nd May, 2020.

Dear Parents,

I hope that this letter finds you and your family well. In this letter, I would like to outline where we are with the potential opening of primary schools.

We have been working together with our partner schools and Trust team to analyse all of the guidance and requirements and can share some of the plans for the gradual reopening from **Wednesday 3rd June**. We remind you that these are subject to change once the Prime Minister makes his speech on 28th May as it is still possible that the opening will not go ahead.

If we no longer believe that we can open safely due to changes in government guidance, our Board will reserve the right to not open the school despite any government announcements. We will of course keep you fully informed about any decision made regarding this as soon as we can.

I have listed the measures we have taken which respond to the risk assessment and Department for Education (DfE) guidance.

After the half term break which starts today and for which we are closed all of next week, I would also like to inform you that we will also be closed on **Monday 1st June and Tuesday 2nd June**. This is a change to what we told you on the 15th of May but the additional day will enable us to put the training and risk assessment actions in place so we must close for the two days.

Who We Are Open To and When

The risk assessment and staffing allows us to open for these groups **only**;

- Children of Critical Workers; EHCP Children; Vulnerable Children
- Reception
- Year 1

In order to ensure that we all use the site safely, we need to phase the days that each group starts

Monday 1 st June	Tuesday 2 nd June	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Closed for all children	Closed for all children	Open for children of critical workers; children with an EHCP and vulnerable children plus Reception	The same as Wednesday plus children in Y1	Open for children of critical workers; children with an EHCP and vulnerable children plus Reception and Y1



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TOGETHER WE EMPOWER EXCELLENCE



If your child falls into the critical worker category and are in Reception or Y1, they will attend on the day for their year group as they will now be being taught with their peers again so a Reception critical worker child would start on Wednesday 3rd June and a Year 1 critical worker child would start on Thursday 4th June.

We will review this constantly and inform you if we need to reduce or increase the number of pupils we can have in school. I understand that this may not meet your expectation of how we should open but our decisions are based on the safety and wellbeing of pupils, staff and parents.

From June 3rd onward, we will be closed every week on Fridays from 12pm. This will be in order to deep clean the school and prepare learning for pupils in school and at home. We are unable to provide the planning time (PPA) that staff are entitled to during the week because adults cannot safely cover other teaching groups so closing is the safest option for your child.

After School and Breakfast Club

We do not have the staff to be able to run this provision safely at this time so there will be no Breakfast Club or After School Club from June 3rd onward.

Lunches

We will provide a packed lunch for any child who is eligible for Free School Meals or is in YR, Y1 or Y2. We cannot safely offer hot dinners at this time and ask children to bring a packed lunch to school if they would normally buy a hot dinner.

Changes to Circumstances

Because we have not been in school, we will not be aware if any circumstances have changed for your child. Please do let us know, via the school office, if there are any changes or anything affecting the health or welfare of your child that we need to be made aware of.

There will be further information that we need to give you and we will write to you before Wednesday 3rd June with further details, including:

- What to bring to school
- How the entry and exit system will work and what you need to do as a parent.
- Your child's start time and collection time
- Which teaching group your child is in and who their adult will be
- Which classroom your child needs to go to.
- How we would like you to 'socially distance' and keep us all safe.

It is going to look and feel different for us all but we will be there to guide you and show you where to go and how this will all work.

We have prepared a parent friendly copy of the risk assessment so that you can make informed decisions which has been emailed along with this letter.



Once again, thank you for the kindness that you have shown the Ilsham team and each other during this past half term. I have been so proud to be part of a community that has come together to help and support each other and all of your kind words and messages have been passed on to the team and have been very much appreciated.

This next half term will feel changeable as we respond to Government announcements and we understand that this can make it difficult to balance work and family life so we will always aim to be transparent and provide information as soon as we can. So now, more than ever, we thank you for your patience and understanding.

I will send a letter out to you on Monday 1st June regarding the new, more structured approach to home learning that we will be taking after half term and sharing the new, daily resources with you.

Stay safe and look after each other and thank you all for your support.

Best wishes,

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

Dawn Ryan
Head of Academy