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***Learning and Growing Together***

11<sup>th</sup> June 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are writing with regards our plans to re-open our school to a wider group of children.

As you are aware, we have planned to re-open Park View on Monday 15th June, commencing with our Year 6 pupils. In our last communication, we invited parents in Year 6 to indicate if they required a place for their child by Friday 5th June and had then intended to send further guidance regarding the practicalities of the school day and confirm arrangements at the beginning of this week.

Unfortunately, later Friday afternoon, Public Health confirmed that the R rate value had increased to above 1 in the North West. We have been carefully monitoring the situation since the announcement in order to help determine our next steps and did not want to provide parents and carers with a steer that couldn't be relied upon or cause further confusion. As a Local Authority maintained school, it is imperative that we gained, amongst other things, a Local Authority perspective. We have been in regular communication with the Local Authority since this announcement and at length again yesterday.

Following a Cabinet meeting held last night to discuss the local response, both to the data and national guidance, Bury Local Authority has, within the last couple of hours, provided advice to all Bury Primary School's that ultimately the decision to re-open to a wider group of pupils is to be determined by each individual school based on robust risk assessment and other locally held contextual information.

We also noted with interest that given the variability of infection rates across the North West, Bury is likely to have an R rate value of just below 1 currently.

**We are pleased to confirm that we will be re-opening our school next week to children in Year 6.**

This decision has been carefully considered and reached based on contextual information relating to staffing, pupil numbers, and through the many control measures that we have implemented through our risk assessment. We apologise for the delay in this communication, however you will appreciate our need to make a decision as safely as possible taking heed of all possible information and intelligence available to us.

We would like to assure all our parents and carers that a great deal of hard work, planning and preparation has been invested by our staff to ensure that our plans for a wider re-opening can happen as safely as possible and we are all very much looking forward to seeing the children again.

A separate letter will follow shortly via email to all parents in Year 6 who have indicated that they require a place for their child next week, confirming the arrangements.

We look forward to the time when it is safe to widen our opening to other year groups and hope that this time is not too far away. In the interim, we will continue remote teaching and learning and will endeavour to keep you updated as further information is received. Please do keep the channels of communication open with your child's class teacher as they are more than happy to support you in any way they can.

We will of course continue to support the children of critical workers and those in vulnerable groups as we have done over the last few months.

In the meantime, thank you for your patience and understanding and do please continue to take care and keep safe.

Kind regards,

David Stephens  
Executive Headteacher

Emma Udall  
Head of School

