



18 May 2020

Dear all,

I do hope everyone had a good weekend.

Over the weekend, CFS plans for potential reopening for some year groups has continued. This has involved developing risk assessments, curriculum and timing plans, site alterations, writing a new timetable and exploring staffing levels. This is a complex process, but I feel we are soon in the position to share with you more specifics about how school would look if we did reopen soon; enough to allow you to make a more educated judgement as to whether or not you would send your own child back this term if it were permitted. As I mentioned last week, it is a bit of a chicken and egg situation; whilst we can't finalise plans until we know how many parents would send their child in this term, we also didn't want to ask you this question until we could provide with more, albeit still somewhat hypothetical, details. I am meeting again with the Senior Leadership Team today, and then with all staff remotely and all Governors tomorrow. I should then be in a position to share with you our proposed plans on Wednesday. I hasten to add that, until risk assessments and alterations have been finalised and actioned and we receive further confirmation from the Government, myself and the Governors have still not ascertained if we will be in a safe position to open. But we want to share with you the plan, should we be able to open.

I would also like to take this opportunity to address some of the Media coverage that has occurred over the weekend. Whilst I have always been very mindful of not taking much notice of Media coverage, I would be lying if I said it hasn't made me very sad seeing some of the unfair criticism that teachers and School Leaders seem to have become subjected to. It makes me sad that, in a time of crisis, the country is turning on each other, with abuse and accusations being thrown at one of the key worker groups. Hand on heart, I can tell you that every single member of the CFS team has worked tirelessly during lockdown to ensure the best possible educational and pastoral care for your child whilst they can't be in school. This has often resulted in longer working hours than ever, and often whilst trying to juggle their own family and health needs. Has it been as good as if your child had been in school and everything had been normal? Of course not. But that is down to circumstance, not a lack of desire. As I said, we shouldn't pander to the uneducated comments coming from some areas of the Media, but I hope you will join me in publicly thanking every member of the CFS team for their passion, hardwork, resilience and creativity. I think they deserve it.

Also, to you as parents. Whatever you ultimately decide about sending your child back to school this term, in this situation, that is your right. And no one should judge you for your decision.

I will be in touch again on Wednesday. In the meantime, thank you for your continued patience.

Kind regards.

Mrs Louise New
Principal