



St Katherine's School



11 May 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

I am sure you will have been following the situation in the news and will be aware of the announcement yesterday that the government believes it may be in a position to begin the phased reopening of primary schools on 1 June, beginning with reception, Year 1 and Year 6. The government has also signalled an ambition to allow secondary school students with exams next year some time with their teachers before the summer holidays.

I want to reassure you that we have already begun to consider our approach to these changes and the steps we would need to take at St Katherine's that work for staff, parents/carers and children. We are expecting further detailed information from the government over the coming days and weeks and will communicate any significant updates in writing to our community.

I appreciate that this announcement will create a whole range of emotions - from excitement at bringing our community back together, to anxiety at the thought of returning to school after a long period away and under social distancing measures. We do not underestimate this challenge and will be taking all necessary steps to ensure our whole community remains safe at all times.

Finally, I would like to thank you all for your support during this time. I have been grateful for the team response from parents/carers, students and staff reflecting the true strength within our community. I share with you an email that was sent to staff from one of our Year 8 students on Saturday - it touched all of us.

Dear all,

I just wanted to say thank you for all your hard work and support to keep our school and education going during this tricky time. I really appreciate all you do and all the efforts you go to in lockdown and outside of lockdown (at school) to make our learning enjoyable and to make sure that we have the support we need for this crisis or anything else where we need help or understanding. During this pandemic, we as a nation needed to come together to get through this, but thanks to the St Kath's Community website and everything else that has helped our school community keep going, I can proudly say that we as a school have come together to fight through these troublesome times. So, all in all, whatever your subject or role is in the school, thanks.

Stay home, Stay safe, Stay Strong.

Justin Humphreys
Headteacher

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