



Head Teacher: Mrs. E. Watson
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The Avenue Primary School, The Avenue,
Nunthorpe, Middlesbrough, TS7 0AG

Dear Parents/Carers,

As you are aware, on Sunday the Prime Minister announced that if the conditions were right, schools would re-open their doors to certain year groups from June 1st. The following day, guidance was published by the Department for Education which set out the reasoning for this approach and also the measures that schools need to be taking to prepare for this date. Please see below a link to guidance that was published specifically for Parents and Carers on Monday 11th May.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/reopening-schools-and-other-educational-settings-from-1-june>

First and foremost, every school within James Cook Learning Trust treats safety as the number one priority at this time, the safety of pupils and the safety of staff.

The bullet points below set out some of the details within the guidance.

- From June 1st, schools will hopefully begin to re-open to pupils in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6. This will need to be prioritised, based on the space available and staffing available.
- We will not be able to accommodate children who are brothers and sisters from other year groups at present.
- We will continue to care for children of key workers.
- The number of pupils in any classroom will be restricted to 15.
- Pupils will be placed in a group and will be expected to stay with the same adult and the same group of children until school structures change.
- Pupils groups will not be able to mix with other pupil groups to minimise risk of transmission.
- It is an *ambition* of the government that all pupils will be able to experience one month of school before the summer holidays.
- Movement around school will be very restricted with break and lunch times being staggered to allow for minimal contact.
- Attendance will be encouraged but it is not statutory at this time. Parents will not be fined if children do not attend school.
- School meals may be sandwiches at first as we adjust to numbers requiring lunch and can order food in.

It is important to note that at this moment in time nothing is certain. May 28th has been identified by the Government as the last day to decide if schools can actually open on 1st June.

Staff across the Trust have worked extremely hard since lockdown in ways which could never have been imagined. To allow Heads and staff to plan as smooth an opening as possible, please could I ask for an indication as to whether you will be resuming regular school attendance for your child or children from 1st June. This information will greatly support the planning and preparation that is currently being undertaken across all four schools.

As parents you probably have lots of questions about the easing of the lockdown, as education professionals we are probably asking the same questions right now. These are very uncertain times but we are working very hard to support our families. By completing and returning this survey you are only providing an indication of what you are thinking, we are not asking for a definite answer at this stage. We are asking please for parents to return these forms by this Friday at 12 noon so that we can begin to put arrangements in place.



**JAMES COOK
LEARNING TRUST**



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If school is in a position to re-open from June 1st to the year groups suggested by the Government,

I will be sending my child/children to school.*

I will not be sending my children to school.*

*Please delete as appropriate

Name of Child	Year Group
	Nursery
	Reception
	Year 1
	Year 6
	Key worker children

Signed _____

Please can you respond by **12 noon on Friday 15th May** by either completing the form above electronically and returning it to the school email address or by including the information within an email.

If no response is received we will assume you do not require a place. Once all responses have been received we can start to make plans. Even if we do reopen on Monday 1st June this does not mean all children requesting a place will return on that day. The return will be staggered and controlled and will be done over a period of time.

If you have any problems responding please contact the school office who will be happy to help.

Again, many thanks for your support and stay safe

Yours sincerely

Emma Watson

Head Teacher