



Diocese of Westminster
SS. Peter & Paul
Catholic Primary School

Head Teacher: Miss T M Peters

Friday 5th June 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you your family and friends have stayed well in these difficult and unprecedented times. As we are moving into a different phase of the Covid 19 emergency I thought it might be useful to share the discussions and thinking of the Governors. You will probably know that the Governing Board is made up of local people, parents and staff who have long term associations with our school. I believe that our varied experiences, distinctive viewpoints and different relationships with the School provide a meaningful and rounded contribution to the wellbeing of children and staff and the good management of the school.

I am also aware that you do not hear from us very often as we support the School mainly in the background but this one of those moments when we feel it is important to communicate directly.

At the present time, our priority is to support and encourage the extraordinary efforts of our Head Teacher, senior management team and all our staff. They deserve our thanks for the work they have done, acknowledgment of the risks they have embraced and our support as we move forward. We would also like to thank you as the parents/carers of the children in our school for supporting the decisions we are all having to make.

The risk assessment reflects the quality and care of our staff team and is as robust as possible as well as incorporating the wider well-being implications for children and staff. At this point in time we do not feel that the advice from government about the return of children to school is as fully thought through as we would wish and this shifts much of the responsibility for decision making onto schools and parents. In this context, where we are concerned but at the same time will continue to make effective plans for reopening we want to record that we share the anxieties of all parents and staff, whatever your decisions may be over the next few weeks.

There will never be 'zero risk'. In the real world, where Covid-19 remains present in the community, it's about how we reduce that risk, just as we do with other kinds of daily dangers like driving and cycling. As Governors, we have a legal duty to ensure our school follows the guidelines set out by government and our local authority, as well as ensuring we do the very best for our school.

Understanding there can never be 'zero risk', the Governing Board has decided to reopen on the 8th June to accommodate those children who have taken up the offer from Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 to return to school. As we are a small school we can only offer alternative weeks and take up to nine pupils in the bubbles or pods. A letter explaining how this will work will be sent to your child/ren year group.

It is our overwhelming wish to ensure a happy and safe return to school for children, staff and the wider community that offers the quality of experience and learning we know we can deliver and are proud of. I believe this experience has shown that our school community continues to put into action our mission to 'Love one another' and will continue to face the challenges ahead with this mission in mind.

Yours Sincerely

Joe Simpson

Vice Chair



Compton Street
Goswell Road
London EC1V 0EU
T 020 7253 0839
F 020 7336 7226
stpetersandstpauls.islington.sch.uk