



Moss Side Primary School
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Headteacher: Mr A Wright

Dear Parent/ Guardian,

Although the weather may not be quite what it was, I hope that you are still in good spirits and finding ways to keep going through this unusual period.

Today marks the start of a further increase in pupil numbers in school but I wanted to outline to all parents the plans for the remainder of the term and some more initial thoughts ahead of next year. As with all of the information over the last few months, lots of this is subject to change as the Government continue to amend laws for the wider battle with COVID and guidance for schools.

Reception and Year 1 pupils returning week beginning 29th June

As part of our phased plan for a safe return, only Reception pupils who completed the initial form will return this week and all those families were contacted last week. Surveys are now available to find out any other pupils who wish to return from **29th June in Year 1 and Reception** and should be completed by **Wednesday at 9:00AM** so that bubble information can be distributed.

[Reception survey](#)

[Year 1 survey](#)

Again, I would stress that this is the choice of each individual family and no child's attendance rate will be penalised as a consequence. Parents will again have the chance to change their mind the week after.

Dates for the remainder of the term

Bubble dates are available via the [website](#) for the rest of this academic year. We are currently trying to find a way to allow *all pupils* to have at least some time on the school site together before we finish, possibly on the field in socially distanced groups. We will have more information once we have worked out if this is possible but this is why all Reception, Year 1 and Reception year group bubbles will finish at the end of week beginning 13th July, as 20th, 21st and 22nd July have been earmarked as possible opportunities to see all pupils at some point over this period.

Year 6 parents will note that all bubbles are in on the same days during the week beginning 13th July so that we can attempt to allow all pupils to see each other, appropriately distanced, on the field during their last three days. The final day in school will therefore be Wednesday 15th July. Any Year 6 parents who wish to send their child to school (if they are not already doing so) should contact Mrs Torbett via Class Dojo, adhering to the same Wednesday deadline each week.



Curriculum for this term

The main focus of any time spent in school, for all pupils, will be **closure and transition**. After a turbulent time, where we appear to be over the 'peak' but as a school are still restricted in what we can do, we hope to be able to provide some form of stability for pupils. I hope that September will allow us to get on with teaching and developing our pupils in a far more normal way, but we will need to see how the Government set out the plan for the next few weeks before we have a true idea of what is to come. The idea of 'cramming' pupils with lots of 'learning' simply does not work; children, as you know, are not robots who automatically make progress because they are taught things. All children need time to process, consolidate and develop the skills that form a part of our curriculum and the staff here are experienced enough to know that. Any 'catch up' will therefore need to be over a long period of time, hence why the focus right now (over a relatively short period of time) is outlined above. **We would like to provide, for all pupils (as well as staff and parents), the feeling that this school year is ending and they can be ready for new challenges and a fresh start in September.**

Academic Year 2020/21

You will have noticed the Government announcement that they have set a target of ensuring that all children return to school in September. This is wonderful to hear and would give us an opportunity to get back to doing what we do best (and love doing) – teaching pupils face-to-face and providing a school environment for them to enjoy. There has been no detail given about changes to guidelines etc and, as I have tried to communicate consistently, we are unlikely to hear anything before the general public. As soon as it is clear what adaptations school will need to make for next year, we will ensure that parents have all of the information that they need. It is likely that, as a staff team, we will need to make further modifications during the summer holiday period and that guidance will continue to change up until the last minute, as it has done over the last few months.

Key Worker Provision

As long as we continue to have the capacity to do so, Key Worker childcare provision will continue until the end of term following the same arrangements as before. I know that some families will be anxious about the summer holiday period but we will all need to see what the Government's further relaxation of the rules for the whole country mean for our general lives. At this moment it is unclear whether there will be an expectation to continue over the holidays and this will also need to be balanced with the need for staff to have a break at some point and dedicate themselves to some family time ahead of the undoubted challenges which are to come next year. I am extremely grateful to our staff team who have committed to supporting families being able to work and have balanced their own working from home and family needs, with providing childcare outside of school hours and during 'holidays'; this has gone beyond what was initially asked for because we felt it the right thing to do. I also know lots of families have appreciated that support and I have passed on your gratitude to the staff involved.

Stay safe,

Mr Wright