



St. Jérôme Church of England Bilingual Primary School

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To: All Parents/Carers

5th June 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Expanding provision at St Jérôme School

At St Jérôme School we continue to value the health, safety and well-being of every member of our school community. We want to provide the safest learning environment for your child/ren. Whilst we still recognise it is impossible to reduce the risk of Covid-19 transmitting in our setting completely, we are committed to reducing it as much as possible.

Since I last wrote to you much has happened: -

- The government has informed schools that the science indicates it is safe for schools in England to begin a phased expansion of provision and that SAGE (Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies) indicate the risk of transmission in general reduces significantly from Monday 15th June.
- The government has informed schools this week that following a risk assessment carried out by the school, schools are permitted to commence a phased and gradual reopening for Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 children only. Schools without Year 6 children are not allowed to open to other year groups in place of Year 6 at this time.
- Our school has carried out a thorough risk assessment that has been externally validated and accredited and agreed by governors.
- All staff have received training, from an external trainer, in infection control specific to Covid-19 and have received training on the correct and appropriate use of any PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) to the same level as NHS staff. This is above and beyond government guidance.
- All staff have received training, from an external qualified trainer in our infection control procedures and how to support our children to follow the procedures and controls in our risk assessment. This is above and beyond government guidance.
- This week staff have continued to prepare classrooms and communal areas so they are ready for children to return to school and that we are able to continue learning and teaching with social distancing measures.

Our risk assessment indicates that we are able to extend our provision to **Year 1 children** on a part-time basis from **Monday 15th June**. Children will attend on either a Monday and Tuesday (from Monday 15th June) or on a Thursday and Friday (from Thursday 18th June). Parents/carers of children in Year 1 will shortly receive detailed guidance about this provision and how to indicate whether they wish for their child to attend. Attendance will be based on parental choice and any parent/carer who prefers for their child to learn at home will be able to continue accessing home learning activities via the school website. Staff will continue to respond to home learning sent to our designated email

address and work sent in is saved to your child's file. For those children in Year 1 who currently attend our Critical Worker provision, please see letter sent to you separately. The phonics screening test for children in Year 1 will also not take place this year. We are waiting for further guidance regarding national assessments for next year.

We anticipate extending our provision to **Reception children**, again on a part-time basis, from **Monday 22nd June** and will advise parents/carers in this year group accordingly once this is confirmed. Parents/carers will continue to be able to access home learning activities via the school website. Staff will continue to respond to home learning sent to our designated email address and work sent in is saved to your child's file.

At this stage, children in **Year 2 and Year 3** will need to continue to access home learning via the school website. Next week parents/carers of children in these year groups will receive details to enable their children to log in to a virtual classroom that will enable them to experience increased interactivity with teaching staff and also to attend a weekly video conferencing opportunity to discuss their learning with their class teacher and other children in their class. We have been informed that children in Year 2 will not undertake national tests or assessments this year.

Children in all groups who currently attend our Critical Worker provision will continue to be able to access this provision.

Please be assured that we will continue to inform you of any updates and we thank you for your patience and understanding as we respond to this unprecedented situation.

Yours sincerely,



Revd. Daniel Norris
Executive Headteacher