



The Heath Family (NW)

A Multi-Academy Trust

Together in the Business of Learning

c/o Palace Fields Primary School
Badger Close, Palace Fields, Runcorn, WA7 2QW

Tel: 0151 214 3445

E-mail: enquiries@theheathfamily.org.uk

Chair of the Board: Mrs H Stevenson

Chief Executive Officer: Mr D Donnelly
M.Sc, PGCE, B.Sc (Hons)

22nd May 2020

An update from David Donnelly, CEO, The Heath Family (NW)

Dear Parent,

I would like to give you a brief update on The Heath Family position on opening your child's school to more children in the near future.

As you are aware the government has announced that from the week commencing 1 June 2020 at the earliest, it will be asking:

- primary schools to welcome back children in Nursery, Reception, year 1 and year 6, alongside priority groups (i.e. vulnerable pupils and the children of key workers);
- secondary schools, sixth form and further education colleges to offer some face-to-face support to supplement the remote education of year 10 and year 12 students who are due to take key exams next year (alongside the full-time provision they are offering to priority groups)

The Trust Board met yesterday to consider the position. The Board has confirmed it's view that schools should reopen to as many children as possible, providing we can ensure that our schools are as safe as possible for children and staff, which overrides any other consideration.

With this in mind the Board have agreed that **we will work towards welcoming more children back to school from 15th June** (at the earliest, subject to the national picture allowing this). This will enable all schools to undertake detailed risk assessments and planning and to consult with parents, staff and the Trust on these plans.

The board have also agreed that we will not be opening our nurseries any further as we do not believe nursery aged children are able to follow the necessary rules, or that we can deliver an appropriate curriculum in the current circumstances.

We will continue to provide remote learning and welfare support to all other children as we continue to plan our responses to bringing back the government identified year groups at the appropriate time. Each school is working on detailed plans, which we will communicate to you as soon as we are able.

I hope that this update provides greater certainty as to when your children may be able to return in the near future and gives you the opportunity to plan accordingly.

Finally, I would like to record my thanks to all of our staff for the fantastic support they have given your children over the last several weeks. There have been some wonderful stories of individuals going the extra mile and being hugely innovative in their work. The heartening stories of how each school community has come together and the wonderful work of many parents, children and extended family members is a massive positive for all associated with our schools.

Best wishes,

David Donnelly