14th May 2020

Dear Parent / Carer

**Government Statement & Guidance – Proposed Re-opening of Schools**

Following on from the Prime Minister’s statement to the nation on Sunday 10th May 2020, I wanted to take the opportunity to signpost all parents/carers and pupils to the guidance that has been issued in relation to the proposed phased return of some children to school, at the earliest from 1st June 2020:

 **‘*Special schools, special post-16 institutions and hospital schools should work towards welcoming back as many children and young people as can be safely catered for in their setting. They may want to prioritise attendance based on key transitions and the impact on life chances and development, and to consider creating part-time attendance rotas so that as many children as possible can benefit from attending their setting. Special settings should work with local authorities and families to ensure that decisions about attendance are informed by existing risk assessments for their children and young people, which should be kept up to date.’***

***‘Existing arrangements for vulnerable children and the children of critical workers in all settings will continue, and we encourage all eligible children in these priority groups to attend.’*** *(Actions for education and childcare settings to prepare for wider opening from 1 June 2020 Published 11 May 2020)*

The Department for Education (DfE) has also now published the following specific guidance for parents and carers which can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers>

Please rest assured that we are now considering the current government guidance to be able to confirm the exact arrangements for potential re-opening High Well to more pupils. In doing so, it is important to stress that the safety of pupils, staff and the wider school community is our highest priority and remains the basis of the planning and risk assessment process that is currently taking place.

During our weekly welfare checks week commencing 18th May 2020 we will be consulting with parents/carers on the guidance from government and collecting initial numbers of pupils likely to attend should the school re-open to more pupils after 1st June 2020.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support during this challenging period and hope that you and your family remain safe and well.

Yours faithfully,



Louise Quinn

Headteacher