

# MONKLEIGH PRIMARY SCHOOL & PRE-SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Mrs Karen Reeves

11<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Dear parent / carer / governor

I hope you are all well. I'm sure like me; many of you will have watched the Prime Minister's address to the nation last night.

You will have heard the Prime Minister indicating that the government believes it may be in a position to implement a phased re-opening of schools from 1 June, starting with pupils in reception, year one and year six. This is part of the government's conditional plan which it says will remain under regular review.

All of us want to get more pupils back into school as soon as it is safe to do so. Staff have devoted their lives and careers to the care and education of young people – they do not want to see classrooms empty for a day longer than they need to be.

However, the first priority has to be the safety of everyone in the school community.

Like all of you, I have only just heard the announcement and at this stage I cannot answer all the questions I am sure you have. I am waiting to receive more information from the government about what this means for our school. In the short-term, nothing has changed and we will continue to provide further information in the coming days and weeks once we are able to do so.

School leaders are still the people who know their schools best. If the national guidance (once known) cannot be safely applied in our school, we do retain the power along with our governing body to make decisions regarding the safety of pupils and staff based on our own individual risk assessments.

While all of us will have many questions, I do want to finish by reminding ourselves that nothing will change immediately.

As a school staff we are all here for you and our priority is keeping everyone safe and well.

Keep safe, take care and I will update you as soon as I have any more information.

Best wishes

Karen Reeves

