



# Highfields Academy

*Together we inspire, always aiming higher*

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Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Good morning everyone,

I hope you are all well. The letters today feel a little bit like the quiet before the storm. Like yesterday, there is not a great deal to share with you today but you can be assured that over the next week or so there will be a lot of information coming your way.

I received quite a few phone calls yesterday from parents to discuss the phase 1 of school return on the 1<sup>st</sup> June. I believe that something has gone on Facebook saying that parents need to confirm whether their children will be returning to school on the 1<sup>st</sup> by last night. I'm not sure where that has come from but I want to try and clarify exactly what we are asking for.

- Last Wednesday I wrote to you all with 2 questions: Will your children be returning on the 1<sup>st</sup>, and do you have any ideas to help us plan.
- On Friday you will have received a survey from the Nantwich Education Partnership asking very similar things.

The purpose of asking these questions were to give us some kind of idea about the numbers we might have so that we could plan effectively. I have received communication from many (just over half) and the views are very mixed. There are quite a lot of definite yeses, a fair few definite nos but many of you are undecided until you see the risk assessment. I totally understand this, we can't expect you all to 'commit' without knowing the details of what school will be like.

On Friday I aim to publish the Risk Assessment. It will be a very long document but it is essential that you all read this carefully. I am putting it out early as there may well be things that parents suggest during the following week that we feel need to be included. There will also be a letter that goes out with it that you will sign to confirm that you have read and understood it and agree to support it. This will need to be signed and returned to us before children are allowed back into school.

It is highly likely that changes to the Risk Assessment will take place and you will be informed of these through my letters.

**We will need the form back and confirmation that your child will be attending (or not) by Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> May. We do need to strongly encourage all eligible pupils to return to school on the 1<sup>st</sup> June.**

### **Transition to High School**

Yesterday I had a meeting with other primary heads and also the head of Brine Leas and Malbank. It was confirmed yesterday that no actual transition days would take place before September. By this I mean children actually attending the schools. I know that both high schools have already been in contact with Y6 pupils and parents and that there are things that they are planning this term regarding transition. You will receive further communication directly from the high schools.

It is a national decision that this is how transition to Y7 will work; this is not specific to Brine Leas and Malbank.

I am sure that you all appreciate that this is a very busy time for us. If you have sent me an email, or if your children have sent me work I will respond but please understand that it might take me a bit longer than it has done previously.

Thank you for your continued support,

Simon Dyson.  
Principal